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THE **IMPORTANCE** OF BEING AN **ENGLISH LADY** PAGE 17

*TIMES

MSIDE Dr Thomas Stuttaford's new Tuesday guide, P16

'Robocop' faces leak inquiry

Zero tolerance police chief is suspended

BY PAUL WILKINSON AND STEWART TENDLER

BRITAIN'S leading exponent of "zero tolerance" policing was suspended from duty yesterday amid allegations that he leaked information and may have been involved in criminal conduct. Detective Superintendent

Raymond Mallon, the head of Middlesbrough CID and daring of both Labour and Tory politicians, was sent home as part of a corruption investigation that has already seen the suspension of two detectives over claims that prisoners were given drugs in exchange for confessions.

The decision was announced by Cleveland's Assis-tant Chief Constable Robert Tumbuli, who said: "I have lound it necessary to suspend Raymond Mallon from duty arising from allegations which relate to the disclosure of information of a confidendal nature about the current investigation to a third party,". A second allegation onnegmed activity which could be car-

strued as criminal conduct". Mr Turnbull refused to give further details, but police sources said that Mr Mallon was accused of leaking information to the media. Investigators were also said to be ecamining suggestions that he might have turned a blind eye to activities of junior officers.

Mr Mallon - who recently said there was no room for "mavericks or cowboys" in his force - insisted, however, that



have let him off with a warning"

he had done nothing wrong. adding: "I have nothing to worry about."

Brook, said: "Mr Mallon strongly remies the allegations pended. We will sue anyone. including the Chief Constable. who suggests that he is guilty of cruninal activity."

Nicknamed "Robocop", Mr Mailon was once described as so clean his officers could almost hear him squeak as he walked around the station. The non-smoking, teetotal son of an undertaker, he has become the dread of criminals in the North Fast and the hane of liberal chief constables who believe that confrontational

dlesbrough and said of Mr Mallon "He's my kind of cop". During the campaign, Mr Mallon briefed Mr Blair, who told him: "You're clearly getting results." And this autumn Mr Straw said that police "In the past we would across Britain could learn from Mr Mallon's force. Mr Mallon's philosophy is that the police have become too negative. He tells his officers to concentrate on burglary, antisocial behaviour and the quality of life on the streets. Under his "Here and His solicitor, Andrew Now? strategy, police are en-couraged to challenge teenage gangs and instructed to act-if they see someone cycling on the pavement or dropping

He first put his theories to the test in Hartlepool, cutting crime by 38 per cent in 28 months as the local detective chief inspector. Promoted to Middlesbrough last Decem-ber, he promised to resign if crime was not down by 20 per cent in 18 months; by September it was down by 25 per cent.
Mr Mallon, a 43-year-old father of two, is also seen to

American-style policing is un-

But politicians have clam-

oured at his door to hear

Mallon's Law - the British

version of "zero tolerance" -

and Tony Blair, Jack Straw

and Michael Howard bave

praised his hardline strategy.

Just before the general elec-tion, Mr Howard visited Mid-

acceptable in Britain.

practice what he preaches. He never cuts a corner or cross the grass on his daily lunchtime run and when a teenager tampered with his car in April, he gave chase for ten minutes until the youth collapsed into

his hands. But some senior officers are unconvinced: Charles Pollard, the Thames Valley Chief Con-stable, suggested that rough policing could provoke disor-der and distrust. Civil rights groups are also critical about the sharp rise in the number of people being stopped and searched, and about the Cleveland force's use of CS sprays.

His approach was, however, upheld by Mr Turnbull even as he announced Mr Mallon's suspension. He said: These allegations are in no way connected with the zero tolerance which every member of the force practises. Positive policing, as we call it, will continue to be operated by the force. Zero tolerance is



Spencers discuss deal

FROM JOANNA BALE IN CAPE TOWN

THE EARL and Countess Spencer were in talks with their lawyers late last night amid speculation that they were negotiating an out of court divorce settlement.

The earl is said to be keen to avoid another week of damaging allegations.

The hearing at Cape Town's Supreme Court was suddenly halted at 2.20pm yesterday as John Lockwood, the first witness for the countess, was about to give evidence against his son-in-law. Shelley-Anne Claircourt, the earl's spokeswoman, confirmed that a settlement was being discussed, but emerged an hour later and insisted the hearing would

continue today. "They are not discussing a settlement," she said. "Discussions are taking place regard-ing striking out some of the lawyers' privilege letters that were discussed on the first day ask her, do you want the of court.

During the morning's proceedings Nicholas Mostyn, the earl's British QC, told the court that his client had been upset at the way the case had

Asked by Jeremy Gauntlett, Lady Spencer's barrister, what he would recommend to the countess if he represented her, instead of her husband, Mr Mostyn said he would advise a lump settlement rather than maintenance. The earl is proposing to pay his wife £300,000, plus £2,500 a month maintenance. The countess wants £3.5 million of her husband's £100 million fortune as a lump sum.

Mr Mostyn said: "I would be going for a clean break probably, but I would have to say that this would be high-risk gambling. I would have to

security which maintenance will give you, or do you want to take a chance, because if it's a clean break, it's a big chance. It would be a finite amount of money and it could run out."

When asked by Mr Gauntlett whether he thought a maintenance plan would be undignified, he disagreed, saying: There is no spectre of the husband losing his job, being made redundant or going bankrupt. In this case, the money is as secure as the Bank of England, it comes from his landed estates. It's absolutely guaranteed."

A barrister representing the earl, Leslie Weinkove, was seen talking to Mr Gauntlett during a morning coffee break and handing him a yellow piece of paper with a figure of £2 million written on the top of

Blair delights Lib Dems with referendum on voting system

TONY BLAIR opened the way to changing Britain's voting system yesterday by appointing a commission to recommend alternatives and promising a referendum before the next general election.

In a move welcomed by Paddy Ashdown as "a truly historic moment in British democratic history". Mr Blair put Lord Jenkins of Hillhead in charge of the exercise to devise a replacement for the first-past-the-post formula.

Although the Prime Minister was reported still to be "unpersuaded" of the case for proportional representation, the Liberal Democrat leadership was delighted both by the terms of reference for the commission and by its members, most of whom have in the past publicly backed a change in voting methods.

The commission will start

work in the new year and report within 12 months, leaving adequate time for a referendum in late 1999 or 2000. Its task is to come up with a "broadly proportional" alter-

native to first-past-the-post. But the key to change will be the stance taken by Mr Blair and the Cabinet at that time. Senior ministers say that, even if the electorate voted for a change, it would be difficult to make the necessary legislative and boundary changes before the next general election.

Some ministers close to Mr Blair believe that he has by no means ruled out the possibility of change early in the next Parliament, meaning that the election after next could be fought on a different system. Many in the Labour leadership are opposed to any change, but some of those prepared to contemplate it, including it is believed Mr Blair, might back the Australian alternative vote (AV) system of preferential voting. At

present, the Liberal Democrat leadership says that such a system on its own would be unacceptable because it is not proportional; however, it does not rule out a variant combining AV and PR.

Any change will retain some kind of link between MPs and constituencies, but the alternatives to be considered almost certainly will involve the election of some MPs according to the proportion of votes cast.

. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, said that the commission will be "free to consider and recommend any appropriate system or combination of systems" and shall "observe the requirement for broad proportionality, the need for stable government, an extension of voter choice and the maintenance of a link between members and geographical constituencies".

Mr Ashdown said that the establishment of the commission would prove to be a decisive moment in the evolution of the constitution: "We are embarking on a process which, with the consent of the people, could alter for ever the nature of our democracy and give us a constitution in which real power lies with voters.

Sir Brian Mawhinney, the Shadow Home Secretary. said: "In every country where the parliament is elected by proportional representation. undue influence is given to minority parties. That is why the Liberal Democrats are so

As well as Lord Jenkins, the members of the commission will be Lord Alexander of Weedon. the Conservative peer; Lady Gould of Potter-newton, a Labour peer; Sìr John Chilcot, the retiring Permanent Secretary at the Northern Ireland Office; and David Lipsey, an economist and political journalist.

Mallon: "I have nothing to worry about"

Brown battles for place in France's beloved jazz new EU economic group

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

OBITUARIES 24 BRITAIN was fighting an uphill battle last night to persuade its main EU part-CHESS & BRIDGE ... 46 COURT & SOCIAL ... 20 BODY & MIND 16 LAW REPORT

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TV & RADIO 50, ST

CROSSWORDS. 24.52

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ners not to lock it out of a 'euro-council", a body to manage the single currency. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, claimed such a move would risk splitting Europe. After five hours of talks, Mr Brown had made little head-

way in his quarrel, which united Britain with Sweden. Denmark and Greece against the proposed body, backed by the II states due to launch the euro. Although the forum is to be officially informal, Britain and the other three countries due to be outside monetary union fear that it will acquire power and supplant the Ecofin", the decision-making council of ministers that runs the EU's economic and mone-

Taking what British offici-

als said was a tough line, Mr Brown warned EU ministers that doing business in the new council would breach the Maastricht treaty, which states that "economic policy is a matter of common interest". In remarks echoed by the Swedes and Danes, whose governments are also opting out of the euro launch in 1999. Mr Brown said the body would divide the EU between the "ins" and "outs".

French and German officials said they wanted to help Britain but rejected its suggestion that the new body was illegal. Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, said: "No one can prevent the euro countries from meeting on an informal basis." The out countries could have no say in the policy forum's discussions. Herr Waigel said. A French spokeswoman said: "Britain is

paying the price for its years of delay in EU affairs." The Government was deter-

mined not to yield in its first big quarrel with the EU because it fears being sidelined from key economic decisions and because exclusion would batter its claims to be "setting the pace" in Europe. For the first time since the election, the atmosphere in the Brussels EU council building resembled the old one of "Britain against the rest".

Adding to the tension was a noisy demonstration outside the building by about five the transport and retail industry protesting against the EU sion to abolish sales of duty-free goods to travellers crossing internal EU frontiers from June 1999.

Leading article, page 19

violinist dies at 89

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE French jazz violinist heart problems and an opera-Stéphane Grappelli died in a Paris hospital yesterday aged

A self-taught musical virtuoso, Grappelli was born in Paris in 1908 and began his career playing the violin around the nightclubs of Montmartre and Montparnasse. Despite recurrent

Grappelli: self-taught

tion to fit a pacemaker in 1991, he continued to perform, wearing his trademark floral

print shirts, well into his 30s. In 1934, Grappelli founded the Hot Club de France with the Gypsy guitarist Django Rheinhart, and he went on to perform with many of the greatest names in jazz, including Fats Waller and Duke Ellington.

Grappelli's family said he had died after a hernia operation in Paris last week.

Lord Menuhin, who also collaborated with Grappelli. led tributes from the world of music. He said Grappelli seemed to come from an earlier age of innocence. "He was perhaps the most beloved violinist and brought more joy to people than anybody else that I can think of in the string world," he added.

Obituary, page 21

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Tweedledums save Harman from wrath of own party

bout halfway through the Social Security Secretary's speech defending her welfare policies, observers noticed a curious verbal tic. Replying to critical interventions from her honourable friends on the Labour benches. Harriet Harman's pronunciation of "honourable" slipped — towards "horrible". The result was a hybrid addition to the slim dictionary of HarmanSpeak: "orryable".

Ms Harman's side are giving her an 'orryable time. It was left to the Tories yesterday to save her. They did so

just by being there. They looked even more orryable. If the Principal Opposition had proposed their critical motion in one simple sentence, afterwards slipping si-lently from the Chamber, Harman would have been left to face her own party alone. apart. As it was, with the hated Tories baiting a Labour Social Security Secretary, government MPs held their noses and rallied to Ms Harman's

For many, "not in front of the Tories" was the order of

the day. No issue could better have illustrated the Tories'

Let us put it this way . . . Imagine a Tweedledum Government proposing the Slaughter of the Firstborn. The Opposing Tweedledees protest. But, before the Slaughter can begin, a General Election turns the tables. Now the Tweedledees are in

Reversing their original stance, the Tweedledee Government now propose the Slaughter. What should

group, is expected to spell out

one of the most effective meth-

Ministers acknowledge that

there are complications in

defining numbers of parking

spaces and admit there could

be huge bureaucracy if the

smallest companies were to be

included. More than 1.7 mil-

lion companies already pay up

to El.000 a year for each parking space through the

uniform business rate, al-

The White Paper, to be

published next spring, is in-

tended to put pressure on

employers to encourage staff

to use public transport rather

though few are aware of it.

ods of curbing car use.



at Tweedledees for proposing the Slaughter of the Firstborn - when in Opposition they had criticised it. They contrast this Tweedledee U-turn with the frank and open Tweedledum wish to slaughter the

The electorate voted Tweediedee and got slaughter by mistake. They should have voted Tweedledum and got it

on purpose. Such is the Tory problem. The cuts to lone-Hoey dressed unaccountably parent benefit which Harman as a Christmas cracker) were proposes were originally a Conservative idea. The Tories are in the worst possible position from which to attack.

Still, they attacked. lain Duncan Smith, Ms Harman's Shadow, made a reasoned, well-researched speech that failed. He was too deploy every argument but the one that mattered: that the proposal was actually wrong. There is an ungenerous edge to Duncan Smith's style, so Labour MPs (Vauxhall's Kate

able to forgive Harman. Reaching for the identical note with which each was furnished by government whips (packed with killer-phrases like "What did the Tories do?" and "What would the Tories do?") Harman's Honourable Friends sprang

'orryable friends were less kind.

Duncan Smith accused most Labour backbenchers of acting "as an air-raid shelter" for their Secretary of State. She certainly needed it.

he unwittingly safe-guards her future by being so reliably inade-quate at the dispatch box that delicacy, and a reluctance to bore by repetition, prompts us to drop our pencils and avert

During her speech, two young

started screaming something that sounded like "scab" (or "scum") from the Strangers'

They were dragged out by uniformed attendants, one woman yelling "You should be ashamed of yourself" at

Labour. looked stunned. Surely this was what happened to Con-servative MPs? But the pigs have taken over Animal Farm, and Labour backporcine side.

Helpline

offers

friendly

ear to

soldiers

By MICHAEL EVANS

CONFIDENTIAL heipline

for soldiers with personal problems opened for calls yesterday in a caring initia-

tive by the Army costing 1250,000 a year.

The independent support line, staffed by 15 civilians,

forms part of a campaign by

army chiefs to stamp out

racism, bullying and sexual

harassment. But it will also

deal with marriage difficulties

and domestic problems.

The team includes experts

who have trained with the

Relate marriage guidance

counselling service and for-mer members of the Samari-

tans. There are advisers on

child abuse and drug addic-

tion. Some members are for-

line, how can I help you?" was the message which yesterday greeted callers to the service.

based at the Army's personnel

headquarters in Upavon,

The helpline is being run by

the Soldiers, Sailors Airmen

and Families Association, a

welfare charity for serving

and former military person-nel, but the cost is being met

by the Army. Christopher Hughes-John-

ston, a deputy controller at the charity, said calls had already started. "Soldiers are guaran-

teed absolute confidentiality

and do not give their names if

they just want advice. But if a

soldier wants us to intercede

us to act for him, then we can

Mr Hughes-Johnston said

that if a soldier rang to say he

was being bullied, a support

line helper would advise him

on the correct army proce-

dures, unless he specifically

asked the support line unit to

To ensure anonymity of

callers, staff will be unable to

use the BT last-caller facility.

Wiltshire.

do so."

intervene.

Hello, confidential support

mer service personnel.

Tax on parking at work planned to reduce car use

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

FREE workplace parking is to uals, is likely to be the most be ministers' main target in curbing car use by increasing the cost of motoring.

Ministers are preparing to shelve plans to introduce electronic charging for driving in cities, arguing that the technology is unproven. Instead. plans to reduce car dependency in congested areas are more likely to focus on a permit system under which drivers would buy a disc allowing citycentre travel at peak times.

However, the prospect of charging companies for providing free parking now looks to be the most favoured option among anti-congestion plans to be unveiled in a transport White Paper next year, Ministers believe that taxing companies, rather than individ-

Train safety complaints

cised by government inspectors yesterday for trying to block safety improvements on cost grounds without considtrain operator tried to introering the true risks to duce old carriages without

Senior safety experts complained of a "lack of maturity" among some managers in the privatised rail industry and effective first option, although more radical measures could

Workplace parking thought to represent up to 60 per cent of town-centre parking space: government research suggests that halving it could reduce congestion by up to 20 per cent.

There are estimated to be at least five million free carparking spaces provided by companies across Britain, and many more given free of charge to public-sector staff at councils, schools and hosp-

A £100 annual charge could raise up to El billion to pay for better public transport, advisers suggest. Research to be published next month by

One unnamed inter-city

central locking doors despite

evidence that the number of

deaths on trains had been

than private cars.

Gavin Strang, the Transport Minister, yesterday un-derlined the Government's determination to reduce congestion, especially in London. ators have been rebuked pri-"Good transport is good busivately by inspectors for trying ness. First-class transport is to oppose new safety measures crucial if London is to mainor even reduce old ones. tain its position at the top of

> "If current transport projections are anything to go by the streets of the capital will eventually be gridlocked. That is why we must take decisive in cutting congestion."

the league as a global business



Farmers angry at what they see as government inaction on their behalf descending on the port at Holyhead

Beefburger dumping 'a warm-up'

FARMERS' leaders yesterday demanded an urgent meeting with the Prime Minister as militants threatened to mount further quayside blockades of cheap Irish beef imports. Livestock farmers say that a

demonstration at the dockside at Holyhead. Anglesey, in which 40 tonnes of beefburgers were tipped into the

Yesterday, as hundreds of packets of beefburgers lapped against the quayside, port authorities stepped up security in the face of an expected resumption of hostilities.

There are fears that a militant hardcore of farmers, who openly admire the direct action of their French counterparts, could resort to more aggressive tactics. They claim they are being robbed of their livelihoods by a combination of cheap imports and Govern-

Bob Parry, president of the Farmers' Union of Wales, wants to meet Tony Blair to tell him that farming is facing its greatest crisis since the Second World War. He insisted the union could not condone action such as throwing beefburgers into the sea.

However, he said: Last night's events show that farmers have had enough and are prepared to take the law into their own hands. The situation facing British agriculture is dire. I feel that we as a farming ndustry must unite

case directly to the Prime

"We have been pressing the case for increased aid to the industry for months. We have been warning about the daneers posed to our industry by a flood of cheap imports and the lack of aid to compensate for the strength of sterling. Yet the Government has failed to take action over our grievances."

The farmers' anger was brought to a head at the Gaerwen Smithfield market st Friday when prices for dairy cattle fell sharply to as little as 50p a kilo - lower than in the early 1980s and less than the low point of the BSE crisis. Farmers were heading home from market with un-

A convoy of farm vehices carrying around 400 farmers converged on Holyhead after a rowdy meeting at Gaerwen. They are angry at the Govern-ment's failure to take up the offer of European Commission cash to compensate farmers for the damaging effects of

sold livestock.

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, condemned the farmers' action and told them it would not do their

cause any good. He told BBC Radio 4: "The idea, the suggestion, the inference that somehow there is a cheque sitting waiting in Brussels that I can go and bring back to British farmers cost free is simply not the case. In theory we could have compensation from Brussels but in practice for every £100 that comes from Brus the event has to be funded from UK public expenditure,

by the British taxpayer." Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, said yesterday that under no circumstances could he condone the actions of the protesters and warned it would do their cause no good. "We have every sympathy for the farmers themselves.

They've had a very difficult decade," he told BBC Radio 5 Live. "We have no sympathy whatsoever for the actions they have taken. It will not

The line is also open to service Mr Hughes-Johnston said that although all conversa-tions would be confidential,

the unit would supply to the Army general information about any trends that might emerge from the calls re-ceived. The lines will be open seven days a week from 12 noon to midnight. The two other services are also addressing the issue of

handles private grievance General Sir Alex Harley

the Adjutant-General, said: "The Army is firmly commit-ted to the development and use of employment and cultural practices which do not discriminate on grounds of sex, origin or religious beliefs. This sits at the heart of the Army's

Welsh farmers' protests are condemned by NFU By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

FARMERS' leaders yesterday

condemned militant protests by Welsh farmers, but warned the Government that further violence might be impossible to prevent because of mounting anger over plunging

Sir David Naish, president the National Farmers' Union for England and Wales, said he was "deeply saddened" by the protests, but likened them to the "letting of a cork out of a bottle" to release pent-

"I do not think we should ever protest in this way," he said. "But I do very much hope that ministers will recognise that this was a small group of people who could not contain themselves any longer and were reflecting anxiety

Sir David was speaking after Welsh farmers surrounded a lorry at Holyhead port on Anglesey on Sunday night and dumped its cargo of 150,000 frozen beefburgers into the sea. The burgers, imported from Ireland, had been destined for Tesco.

As justification for their anger, farmers seized on statistics released yesterday by the Ministry of Agriculture showing that total income from farming has fallen by 37 per cent in real terms this year. The collapse in incomes is blamed mainly on the strength of the pound, which has made made it more difficult for farmers to export and opened the door to cheap imports. Beef cattle prices fell last week to the lowest figure since the BSE crisis broke. A strong pound has also

reduced the sterling value of the guaranteed prices and other EU subsidies received by farmers. These are fixed in then translated into national

Leading article, page 19 any harassment."

reduced substantially by automatic locking, the annual demanded that closer attenaction to reduce car dependenreport by the Health and tion be paid to averting the cy now. We can all play a part risk of accidents. Several oper-Safety Executive says. news coverage including financial headlines, sports. Q & A with Riz Khan Every weekday Riz Khan puts he Hidden Assassins THE HIDDEN ASSASSASS They don't eat, they don't sleep, they have no co News Highlights/ Find out about the world's most ruthless letters, their history and their regible 110 million active mines, statisfed across over 70 countries. These mines kill of make, one victim every twenty minutes - that's three victions during this document

Wanted: second home for dome

By NICHOLAS WOOD

THE Millennium Dome could be moved from Green-wich to another part of the country after 2000, Peter Mandelson said yesterday as he answered claims that the E750 million project would prove a white elephant.

The Minister without Portfolio published an indepen-dent report which concluded that that the project would prove of lasting benefit to the nation. He also invited bids from firms interested in acquiring the dome, which will be the largest cable and fabric

has hosted the Millennium celebrations.

Mr Mandelson, who will today be questioned about the done by MPs on the culture. media, and sport select committee, suggested that the Government would recoup at least some of the £200 million of National Lottery cash in-

vested in the project. "I should like to take this early opportunity to invite those with a serious interest in the Dome's future to register their ideas," he added.

Irish minister regrets gaffe

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN BELFAST

DAVID ANDREWS, Ireland's foreign minister, ex-pressed regret last night for a gaffe that shook Unionist con-fidence in the Stormont peace talks and provoked a Unionist call for his dismissal.

Mr Andrews said he wished he could "unsay" a weekend radio interview in which he called for a new North-South cross-border body with a secretariat and executive functions not unlike a government". He admitted his words were inappropriate and promised not to repeat them. He was speaking after a meeting with the Ulster Unionist Party and two loyalist parties that was described as "rough as hell". Unionists vehemently oppose any form of cross-border body that could be construed as an embryonic

third government.
At Stormont David Trimble, the UUP leader, asked who was talking for the Irish government and suggested Mr Andrews be replaced with "somebody sen-sible". The Alliance Party also called for his resignation.

jixmonths' ja for golfer in breath-test pla

personal counselling. The RAF is considering a confiden-tial helpline. The Royal Navy

marital status, race, ethnic operational effectiveness."

He added: "Our servicemen and women must be able to enjoy equality of opportunity in an environment free from

Judge so slow to rule 'that he forgot evidence'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE WHEELS of justice are notoriously slow. But they can almost stop completely when Mr Justice Harman, one of the country's most controversial High Court judges, turns the

The Court of Appeal was told yesterday that he sat on a case which began in 1994 but did not deliver judgment until April Fool's Day 1996 — one year and eight months after

Those involved were so concerned at the amount of time the judge was ruminating on the case that they contemplated taking out an insurance policy in case he died before

Yesterday the judge, who is known as "Harman the Horrible" by some, was accused by a leading QC of rendering his judgment unsustainable, among other things, by "inordinate, inexcusable, unacceptable and extraordinary" delay. Alan Boyle, QC, also accused Mr Justice Harman — famous for claiming in court that he did not know who Bruce Springsteen and Gazza were - of losing court documents and forgetting aspects of the

When he finally gave judgment, the Court of Appeal was told, he dismissed the action.



to deliver his judgment

which was for damages arising from allegations that accountants involved in the purchase of farm property in France had been in breach of their duty of care for ownership of property, value and availability of security.

The case began on June 7, 1994; legal argument ended on July 13. It was then that the wait for judgment — one of the longest on record — began.

Yesterday as Mr Boyle, for Rex Goose, a farmer of Spalding, Lincolnshire, made his claims in the Court of Appeal. Sir Jeremiah Harman, 67, an Etonian and ex-Coldstream Guardsman, was himself sitting as an additional appeal judge just three

Mr Boyle said that by the

supervision. But tests showed there was nothing wrong with

him. Nurses were unable to

take a blood sample, Mr

Povall was seen by a doctor

Blower said.

of his intoxication."

was shattered."

sample from him.

time the judgment was given Sir Jeremiah had lost some of the documents. He added that it was to be inferred from the delay and his loss of documents, along with loss of some of his notes, that by the time he gave judgment he had forgotten essential facts and evidence. His recollection of the demeanour of witnesses and their credibility must also have faded, Mr Boyle argued.

When Mr Justice Harman originally reserved his judg-ment, a decision had been expected within months. But letters urging the judge to give judgment had proved of no avail, Mr Boyle told Lords Justices Peter Gibson, Brooke and Mummery.

Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor of the Supreme Court, and head of the Chancery Division of the High Court, was also contacted and Mr Boyle said that at one stage, because the delay had dragged on so long, steps were being considered to take out life insurance on Mr Justice Harman to cover legal costs if

he died before ruling. Mr Boyle said that the appeal, expected to last several days, was an "anxious and difficult case" and stressed that delay was the central issue of the case.

The hearing continues but no date, as yet, is fixed for

Morgans' lottery goldmine stuns poor pit village

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A FAMILY living on just under £150 a week in one of the most deprived communities in Britain yesterday celebrated winning £9,404,844 on

the National Lottery.

John Morgan, 44, his wife,
Kay, and the four other members of their family syndicate could probably now afford to buy the small former mining village of Rhigos, in the Cynon Valley, South Wales.

Their good fortune had only just begun to sink in when they attended a press conference hosted by Came lot, the National Lottery organisers, at a Cardiff hotel 36 hours after their win. As he sprayed the assembled press with champagne, Mr Morgan, who was made redundant when the pit at Rhigos closed three years ngo, said: "It's going to be a great Christmas."

Until last Saturday, Mrs Morgan, the family breadwirmer, was a seamstress making medical corsets and bringing home just over £100 a week. She said yesterday that although various benefits made up the family's income to £142, trying to raise a family on her pay was

Now the couple's share of the winnings is likely to earn



Magnificent Morgans, left to right: John, Kay, James, Mark with grandson Jake, Mary and Linda Leech

them that in interest alone ry six bours.

Mrs Morgan, 41, admitted to just one ambition: to go on holiday to Malta. She said that in the past ten years the family has been away just once, when they spent a weekend in a caravan in

Having a job at all in Rhigos means that Mrs Morgan, who has two grown-up

children and a son Jake, aged wo, is already one of the lucky ones. Since the open cast pit closed, the unemployment rate in Rhigos for men has run at 28 per cent and 42 per cent for women, despite substantial investment in the area by the Welsh Development Agency.

According to the local authority, the Rhondda Cynon Tas Council, one in four

homes in Rhigos — popula-tion 1,814 — is rented from the council or a housing association and a quarter of households have no car. Social life friendship." in the village revolves around the bar at the rugby club and the mobile burger van which

visits on Saturday evenings. Mr Morgan, a diabetic who suffers from heart trouble, said: "We don't want to move away to a plush home

knows us. Our neighbours have been brilliant to us and you can't buy that sort of

The other members of the family who won £1,576,000 each are the Morgan's son Mark. 18, Mr Morgan's brother James, 38, his sister, Mary Morgan, and his sisterin-law, Linda Leech, a moth-

Six months' jail for golfer in breath-test ploy

A BUSINESSMAN and for- the Welsh amateur golf team mer leading amateur golfer who also represented Great was joiled last night after a Britain was taken to the Royal charge ended with him escaping from police custody at a hospital in the early morning.

John Povall, capped more than 50 times for Wales, tried to beat the law by feigning breathing problems and chest pains when he was stopped by police after drinking heavily at his own redundancy party, the Old Bailey was told,

He was taken to hospital complaining of pains and then fled in the early morning last May before giving himself up 18 hours later.

Jailing him for six months Judge Geoffrey Grigson told Povall, 58: "However drunk and confused you might have heen it is plain you escaped from lawful custody and the morive was to escape the legal consequences of your drink-

The court heard how police contacted Povall's wife Angela at their home in Hindhead, Surrey and she alerted them after he got in touch with her. Graham Blower, for the

prosecution, said Povall had to be "poured" on to a train to Haslemere after drinking heavily at a party to mark his redundancy as sales manager for a shipping firm in central London. He then climbed into special constable as he drove the wrong way down a one-way street in Haslemere.

Povall failed a breath test and was told to sit in a police car when he began complaining of chest pains. A passing ambulance was flagged down but the crew "said straight away that he was feigning", Mr Blower said. Povall, a former captain of

John Povall, capped 50 times for Wales

Teenager attacks Russian justice

FROM RICHARD BEESTON

A TEENAGE British girl, who faces six years in a labour drugs trafficking, yesterday refused to co-operate with a Moscow court, saying that she no longer trusted Russian

Thinking on his feet he After 22 months in prison knew that blood could have and two trials, Karen Hendershown the level of alcohol in son, 19, choked back tears of that blood. The defendant frustration yesterday on the vomited at one stage and it last day of hearings, as she contained nothing more than accused her jailers of "inhualcohol, which shows the level man" treatment and the Russian legal system of

violating" her rights. running away at about 4sm. "I do not trust this court. Karl Williams, for the de-fence, said the effect of Povall's the student, who was arrested at Moscow's Sheremetevo airredundancy on him was devport in February 1996 for carrying 10lb of cocaine con-cealed in a suitcase, told the astating. The defendant was extremely upset that at his age there would be no future. He three-judge panel. Until yesterday, the teen-

Povall and his wife have ager had shown few signs of since moved to Stroud in emotion, even when she was Gloucestershire where he is sentenced last year to six years thought to be earning £40,000 in a Russian labour camo. a year in a sales job. That trial was cancelled after No charge of drink-driving was brought because police it became clear that her court appointed interpreter was inwere unable to take a second competent and had mistrans-lated key passages of evidence and testimony. breath sample or a blood

Despite pressure from Britain for the Russian authorities to improve the legal standards of the second trial, which should end today, with a verdict, the hearings have been plagued by setbacks. Key witnesses have repeat-

edly refused to testify and none of the evidence, including the suitcase and the cocaine, was ever produced in

In addition, Ms Henderson's lawyers yesterday said that there was 165 grammes of the drug missing and argued that the evidence could no longer be considered valid.

"...best little PC."

"Gorgeous."
-What Video & TV, 6/97, B. Fox

"...innovations galore..."

-Mobile Computing, 12/96, M. Campanelli

"Damn fast."

-The Paperless Office, 2/97, N. Ballard

"...better than sex!"

-Modern Loving, 7/97, N. Lam



Tribunal serves up £1,300 to sacked TV hotel waitress

BY PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

THE drama continues at the from Manchester airport had Adelphi Hotel in Liverpool, even without the constant presence of a BBC camera crew. Yesterday, out of sight of the millions who have been watching Hotel, the fly-onthe-wall documentary series about the Adelphi, a silver service waitress was awarded more than £1,000 in lost carnings from her employer by an industrial tribunal.

The hotel and its general manager, Eileen Downey, the star of the series for her bustling, authoritative manner, did not know the tribunal was being held.

July, when the Adelphi was filmed coping with the arrival

been delayed. Staff were asked to work extra shifts to cope with the influx. Away from the cameras. Mrs Seiga. a waitress at the hotel for seven years, refused to work the extra shift. She was dismissed by Mrs Downey. Mrs Seiga, from Huyton, told the tribunal: "I was just told to get my coat and bags and that I

wouldn't work there again." In November, however, when Mrs Seiga went to Mrs Downey and told her she was going to an industrial tribunal, she was re-employed in her old job with the same yer for Britannia Hotels, owners of the Adelphi, said derstood that this was the end of the matter, that Mrs Seiga would not be going to the industrial tribunal and so did not refer the relevant papers

Mrs Seiga, however, want ed back pay for the period between July and November she was out of work. She told the tribunal: "I hoped to sort all this out without coming to a hearing but Mrs Downey isn't the sort of person you can

approach very easily. Britannia were unaware until yesterday afternoon that the morning tribunal was being held. The tribunal took Britannia's absence into consideration when it awarded Mrs Seiga back pay of

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After qualifying in

Bournemonth th I started work s away. After a s while it became cle that further skills, like plastering and card would help expanding work into other ace i contacted CHTC tound the right cane the he: On the course I iearni a Whole new set of skills which enabled me to undertake all kinds of different work. Since then, I have worked on some amazing maces. step insule if I didn't do

-instory, Epc me, that's

Stone Conservati

ID test of

eve donor

The complete works of Shakespeare

by Clara Willett.

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's bionic Blair



A new superhero: scenes from the first episode

By PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

HE HAS already been Bambi. Demon Eyes and Dan Blair. Now Tony Blair is B.L.A.I.R I: "Not so much a major leader, more a major weapon." In his first outing in the latest issue of the science fiction comic 2000 A.D. he solves the problem of 500,000 unemployed single parents by putting them to work in

B.L.A.J.R 1's mind is controlled by an "artificial intelligence relay" called Doctor Spin and he has the strength of 50 men - or 25 John Prescotts, depending on how you look at it. His mission: to make

Britain a force to be reckoned with. In the first story about the new superhero, B.L.A.I.R I must rescue a mother and baby who are being held hostage at the bottom of a mine by unseated Tory MPs. Malcolm Rifkind takes a "Swakk!" in the mouth, David Mellor doubles over with a "Grooon!", Neil Hamilton gets a "Thokk" for offering a fistful of

fivers, and Edwina Currie is killed

with one of B.L.A.I.R1's death-

Having rescued the mother and child, B.L.A.I.R I asks why she was not at work. When told that no one employs a single parent, he has the idea of sending single parents down

the mines. As they set off, the new workers sing: "Hi-ho! Hi-ho! It's off and that Bambi quality that makes to work we go. We'll work all day for rubbish pay. Thank you, Tony-O."

David Bishop, the editor of 2000A.D. said yesterday: "We wanted to do an update of the Bionic Man - and Blair seemed perfect. Now that the official honeymoon period is over, we thought it would go down

Mr Blair is the first Prime Minister to feature in the comic. In 1977, the year the comic was launched, it planned to have Margaret Thatcher killed by alien invaders but the publishers forbade it. "No other PM has been suitable for us," Mr Bishop and that Bambi quality that makes you want to have a go." Mr Bishop sent a copy of the first cartoon to 10 Downing Street. He said: "We received a letter back saying that they were delighted with what we

Next week's episode features Jack Straw as Judge Straw — after 2000A.D's law-giver. Judge Dredd. He will introduce a "one strike and you're out" policy.

had done."

The Tories are not safe either. William Hague will be appearing with the numbers 666 tattooed on his head and Michael Howard and Ann Widdecombe will join forces to summon up the spirit of a demonic taxpayer to take on B.L.A.I.R I. After B.L.A.I.R I has dealt with

fatcats and alcopops, the series will end at the end of this month with the entire population of Britain in jail. The comic has sold 60 million copies since its introduction. Its

record of more than 1,000 issues is matched animy comics only by the Beano and the Dandy. It sells 50,000 copies weekly to readers addicted to Tharg the Mighty, Rogue Trooper, Slaine and Durham Red. Its most famous creation is Judge Dredd, the defender of Mega-City One, who was played in a film by Sylvester

Divers drowned after basic safety mistakes

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

TWO inexperienced scuba divers panicked and drowned at Britain's largest inland diving centre after making a series of basic safety mistakes, a coroner was told yesterday.

Glyn Beeson, 48, and Patrick Scanlon, 37, died in separate incidents at Stoney Cove Inland Diving Centre near Hinckley. Leicestershire. while swimming with friends. their inquests were told.

Air Beeson, from Cannock.

Staffordshire, suddenly separated from his two companions while coming up from 20 metres on September 3 and rushed to the surface, shouting and waving.

George Atkins, a witness, told his inquest: "He was sitting there in a bath of bubbles and he seemed to be blown up like the Michelin Man. He was there for about 10 or 15 seconds then went back under.

Rescuers found the father of two unconscious on the honom of the former granite quarry. He died the next day in hospital.

Mr Scanlon, from Leicester, suddenly ran out of air while ascending from 18 metres on October 4. His diving companion Adrian Stubbs told how he shot up "far too fast" then sank to the hortom. where he was found face-up.

James Symington, the Leicester Cornner, recorded verdicts of accidental death on both men after hearing that health and safety inspectors had cleared Stoney Cove of all responsibility. He was told that both victims carried out their training elsewhere at schools run by the Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI).

Inspector Stephen Hanson. a diving expert with Leicestershire Police, criticised the association for awarding qualifications allowing novices to dive together unsupervised after just four sessions with instructors.

Although only qualified to dive to 18 m Mr Beeson had descended to 30 m and had stups to eliminate nitrogen from the blood. He said that Mr Beeson's waving and shouting would have empried air from his suit and lungs causing him to sink rapidly.

Inspector Hanson said Mr Scanlon, who was on his first unsupervised dive since qualifying un a PADI course in Malta, had failed to acclimatise to the cold fresh water quarry and had panicked when his cylinder ran out.

The coroner will hear an inquest today into a third death at Stoney Cove before deciding whether to make safety recommendations.

CJD test on eye donor six months after grafts

TESTS confirming a woman tissue transplants. He was eye donor was suffering from satisfied there had been no Creutzfeld-Jakob disease were carried out two weeks ago, more than six months after three patients were given corneal implants taken from her. Marion Hamilton died of

lung cancer in a Stirlingshire hospice in February and her eyes were used in operations performed in March and April. It was only last month that tests were ordered on tissue from her brain to find out if the reason she became unsteady on her feet shortly. before she died was that she was suffering from CJD.

Sam Galbraith, the Scottish Health Minister, said a comprehensive review of the case would be announced later this week and would report shortly. As a health minister, surgeon and a transplant recipient, he said he was "only too aware of the concerns" being raised over the eye

satisfied there had been no question of information regarding the patient's infection with CJD being withheld before the transplants took place.

"I am determined that we get the full facts of this case so that we can learn from it for the future," Mr Galbraith said. The inquiry will concentrate initially on finding out why it took so long for tests to discover why Mrs Hamilton had suddenly become senile and unsteady, even though she was only 53.

Her eyes were removed shortly after her death, in keeping with her own wishes. and within 48 hours had been sent to an eye bank run by the UK Transplant Support Service Authority at the Royal Eye Infirmary in Manchester. After the hospital carried out routine tests to make sure that the corneal material was not infected with bacterial or fun-



Robert Johnson of the British Transplant Society, right, flanked by Andrew Tullo, explains the role of Manchester Royal Eye Hospital

gal matter, and that the donor was not a carrier of hepatitis B/C or of HIV, they were cleared for use. Two patients, one from Wolverhampton and the other from Liverpool. received corneal grafts; the other, from Manchester, received a sclera — the white of the eye.

Andrew Tulio, consultant

eye surgeon at the hospital. said last night: "The surgeons who carried out the transplant procedures have been informed as to the identity of the patients and we understand that the patients in question have now been informed."

He said that the hospital had followed all the transplant

authority procedures for accepting corneal tissue for donation. There is a list of conditions which, if apparent at death, would mean that the eyes would not be accepted for transplant. None of these conditions were reported to the

hospital in this case." He said it would be extremely difficult to speculate on the chances of one of the three patients contracting CJD as a result of the transplant. The only reported case of a patient developing CJD from a corneal transplant occurred in

America in 1974. 18 months after the operation. Officials have emphasised

Football coach wins sex bias case

that the variant of CJD diagnosed in Mrs Hamilton was the so-called "classic" strain. not the new variant that has been linked to BSE. A helpline for patients who

have had eye transplant operations using material from the bank at Manchester has been set up on Olbl 276 8500.

Husband floored head

FOUCATION CORRESPONDENT

HEADMASTER was punched to the floor by the husband of a teacher at his .chool during an argument, a . court was told yesterday. David Bennett, head teach-

er of Sackville School, a comprehensive in East Grinstead, West Sussex, fell on his back after being struck by Trevor Unwin, a company director. Unwin, 50, burst into his office and hit him in the chest

ment on the telephone, Lewes Crown Court heard. Unwin is appealing against his conviction for common assault for which he received a 12-month conditional discharge and was ordered to pay £300 costs.

Mr Bennett said that on September 2 Unwin attended a timetable meeting at his wife Elizabeth's request. She wanted him as an observer because she was waiting for an industrial tribunal ruling on her claim of sexual discrimination

thought the issue was dis-cussed "amicably" but received an aggressive telephone call from Unwin two hours later. "Regrettably I had to put the telephone down on him," he said. "He then burst into

my room 15 minutes later. Unwin said he would ruin whatever career I had left. He then lunged forward and hit me on the left-hand side of my chest and I fell over backwards on the floor."

The hearing continues.



SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

A FOOTBALL coach who says she was denied the top qualification because she was woman yesterday won a sex discrimination case against the Football Association. Vanessa Hardwick, 32, a

physical education teacher from Ickenham, northwest London, was also awarded £5,000 for injury to her feelings by an industrial tribunal

terwards: "This is brilliant. It was worth all the hassie and losing half a stone in weight during the four-day hearing. which was very stressful. I'm in the middle of trying for the advanced coaching licence again with the final assessment next July. My aim is to coach in the United States."

Ms Hardwick had claimed that leaders of a two-week course at the Lilleshall national sports centre. Shropshire, made her feel out of

for men". She said: "The course was physically and emotionally demanding and not being one of the boys not being in with the innuendoes - made it more intimidating and stressful. I suffered because I was assessed on my ability to play men's football in their style and not women's, which is vastly different, and that put

me at a disadvantage. A spokesman said the FA

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Diabetes drug withdrawn over liver problems

been withdrawn by its manufacturers two months after because of evidence that it can cause fatal liver damage. About 140 patients worldwide are known to have become seriously ill from taking the drug: six of them have died.

The drug, troglitazone, was put on clinical trial by Warner-Lambert in America and Japan in 1991. It was released there in March and 670,000 patients are now taking it, including 370,000 who have been on it for three months. On average, one diabetic in 5.000 appears to be harmed by it.

In Britain, Glaxo Wellcome began tests under licence in 1992, with 6,500 patients taking troglitazone for a trial period, including 1,000 who were on it for more than a year. A very few showed slight different scale to those now starting to emerge in America and Japan. It was released for use here on October I under

A DRUG for diabetics has the brand name of Romazin and there are an estimated 5,000 users.

The first evidence that the drug could start to damage the liver after three months began to emerge a month ago from America and Japan, Symptonis of liver malfunction indude anorexia, nausea, vomiting, malaise, dark urine. pale stools and jaundice.

In a statement yesterday Glaxo Wellcome said that since the first warning was issued a substantial number of further reports had been received of patients taking the drug experiencing liver prob-

The drug has not been suspended by the Medicines Control Agency, but in the light of the new evidence, Glaxo Wellcome has decided to take it off the market voluntarily while a full review The British Diabetic Associ-

ation has a careline (0171 636 6112) to help any diabetics worried about what they

Machines will pay up in blink of an eye

CUSTOMERS at automatic cash dispensers could soon be gazing into a camera lens rather than trying to remember their PIN.

Nationwide Building Socicty is to test cash machines which can recognise an individual's "eye-print" - the unique pattern found on the iris, the coloured ring of tissue surrounding the pupil. Each person has a different pattern of filaments, pits and striations in the iris, making it as distinctive as fingerprint

A camera based in the cash machine will detect the pattern in seconds, and compare it with one stored in a central computer, or encoded on to the cash card. This will ensure that only the person entitled to use the card is doing so, and will replace the need for personal identifica-tion by a four-figure number.

Nationwide is to launch the six-month trial in Swin-

donkey rides.

Freephone. A thoroughbred

racehorse currently used for



don, Wiltshire, where it has its head office early next year. One camera will be fitted to a cash dispenser inside the branch, and a second at the counter. "It will be fascinating to test our customers' reaction to it." Brian Davis. Nationwide's

chief executive, said. The hardware will be supplied by Sensar Inc. of New Jersey, which has teamed up with NCR, the world's largest manufacturer of automatic cash dispensers. The technology was originally developed

bridge University who de-vised a way of representing each iris as a matheritatical code that requires little computer storage.

For the trial customers

will have to have their iris code recorded, which takes about a minute. Then, each time they use their card, they will have to look into a camera from a distance of about one foot. The iris scan will be extracted from the image, and compared with the stored code held in a central database to confirm the individual's identity.

Psychiatrists say stress is forcing them out of NHS

THE stress of being a psychiatrist in the National Health Service is forcing many of them to take early retirement.

A survey of those who left before reaching the age of 65 has found widespread disendantment with the reforms introduced by the Conservative Government, with intive Government, with increasing bureaucracy and with pressures of the job. One consultant said: "A colleague comitted suicide in 1994. I did

not want to be seen The survey was carried out by Robert Kendell, president of the Royal College of Psychi-atrists, to find our whother early retirement was one reason why so many consultant

posts remain vacant. All psychiatrists under 65 who left the NHS in 1995 and 1996 were contacted for the survey. Dr Kendell calculates that around 50 potentially avoidable premature refirements a year are now occurring so that, in the five-year period up to 1996, 250 consul-

'A colleague killed himself: I did not want to

be next'. Ian Murray reports

on job pressures This compares with 457 vacancies and means there would be enough trained psychiatrists to fill 55 per cent of the empty posts if they had not decided to

leave the service. The findings, published in the Psychiatric Bulletin yesterday, show clearly that they are being forced out of the

"I was tired. I had nothing left to give," one wrote. Another said: "I grew tired of fatuous form-filling which seemed designed to produce some kind of tenuous fossil record of clinical practice for inspection. Invaluable time is wasted in filling up useless

Dr Kendell said: "The phrases and sentences paint a sad picture of a group of men and women feeling increas-

stress and unappreciated, who eventually decided that their working lives and their relationships with their patients had changed so much that they were not prepared to soldier on any longer.

"Some had specific fears of heing involved in a beginning.

being involved in a homicide inquiry, some felt angry and humiliated by the decisions of purchasers or their own managers, most were simply fed up and disillusioned."

More than half of those who responded said they were now working part- or full-time in private practice and a quarter said they were still doing parttime work for the NHS

"Many of those who had moved into private practice commented how much they were enjoying working in this setting and several emphasi-sed that the main attraction was not the financial rewards but the opportunity it gave them to spend their time treating patients."

Dr Kendell said the comments showed a "pervasive sense of sadness and even guilt to leave the NHS, to whose ideas they had once committed themselves, to which they had devoted most of their working lives and which they now perceived as

Body and Mind, page 16

Strain can cause blocked arteries

BY NIGEL HAWKES

to develop the symptoms of Finland has shown.

Response to stress is as accurate a predictor of heart disease as smoking or high chol-esterol levels. Thomas Kararck of the University of Pittsburgh and colleagues re-port in Circulation, the journal of the American Heart

A total of 901 men were asked to carry out a series of mental tasks testing reaction times and memory. The de-mands were such that they could achieve only 60 per cent accuracy or less, creating a

situation of mental challenge. The response to that challenge was measured by in-creases in heart rate and blood of the thickness of the carotid artery wall, using ultrasound. This is a method for assessing the degree to which the arteries are blocked - the more

MEN who respond badly to blocked, the greater the chance of a heart attack.

The men who reacted most strongly to stress were more likely to have blocked arteries than those who remained

Dr Kamarck concedes that there is room for doubt over cause and effect. It may be that men who already have narrowed arteries show an increased heart rate and blood pressure when stressed for that reason, rather than because they are simply more

prone to stress. But he believes that is unlikely, because the effect was found in men with no evidence of clinical disease.

The fifth of men in the study response to stress had arteries with an average wall thickness of 0.89mm compared

Antibodies kill cancerous cells

By Our Science Editor

A NEW cancer treatment in which antibodies destroy cells that have turned cancerous is said to have

Martin Glennie and George Stevenson of Southampton University will today report their findings to the British Society of Immunology Conference in Brighton. While previous efforts to use antibodies as a cancer treatment have not proved as successful as doctors hoped, the South-

ampton team believes that success may be simply a matter of identifying the

right antibody They have developed one that recognises a molecule called transplant lymphoma. The antibody triggers a change in the cells, either suicide. It destroys all the B-cells, both healthy and cancerous, but the healthy

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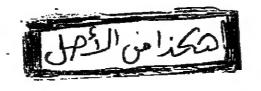
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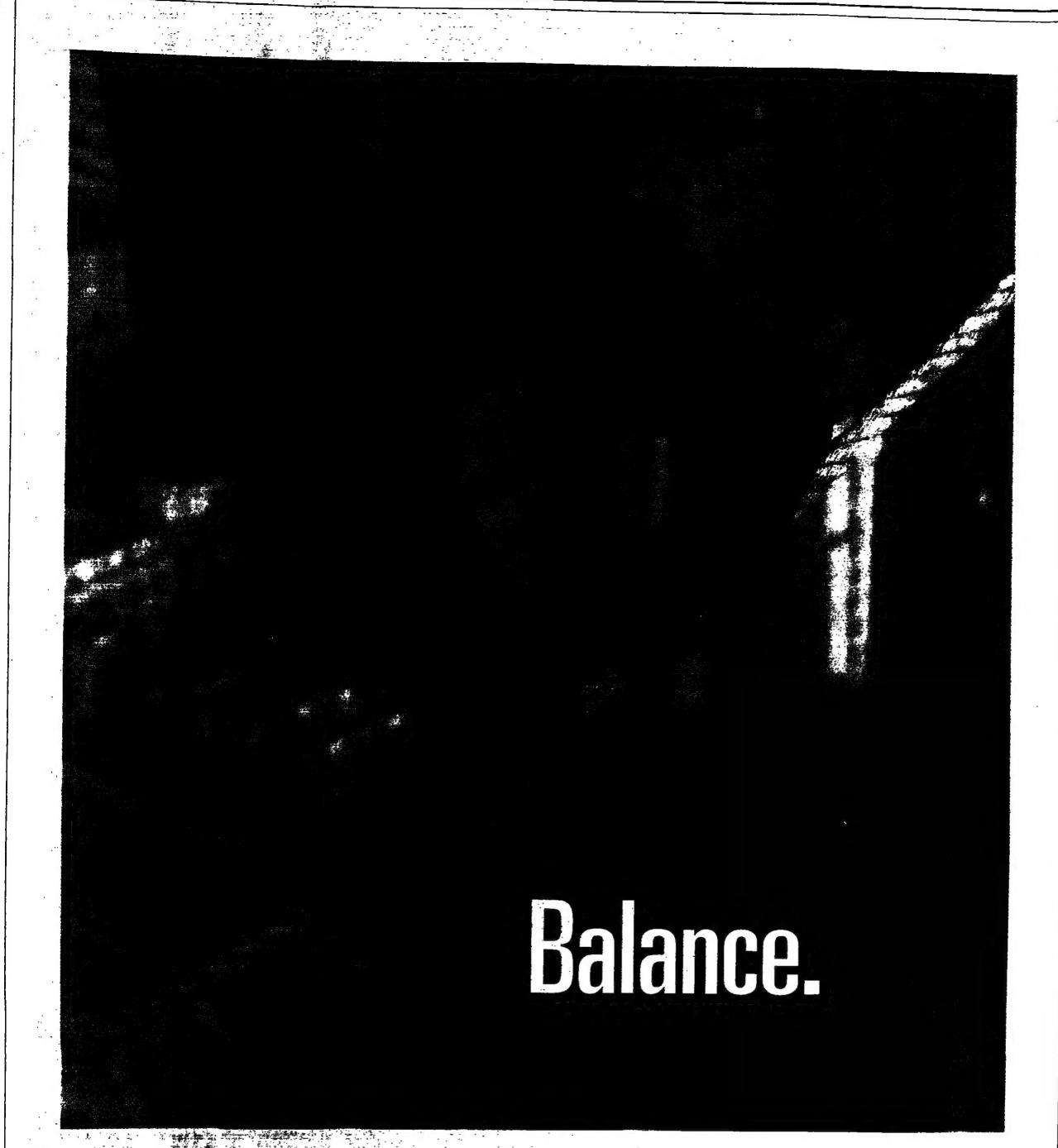




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Cardinal's

virtue as

role model

is doubtful

CARDINAL WOLSEY, who dominated the Government of

Chancellor.

for a Labour Lord

While, like the current office holder, he wielded enormous

power behind the scenes, he

was eventually charged with

having exceeded his authority

and was arrested on charges

The son of an Ipswich

butcher, Cardinal Wolsey amassed wealth said to be

second only to the King's in his

14 years as Lord Chancellor.

But he fell from favour in 1529

after failing to persuade the

Pope to grant Henry an annul-

ment of his marriage to Cath-

He was accused of having

exceeded his authority and the following year he was arrested on charges of treason

for corresponding with the

French court. He died weeks

later while on his way to face

erine of Aragon.

Peer lobbies to protect press as concern grows over Lord Chancellor's handling of legislation

Wakeham warns of privacy law by the back door

By ANDREW PIERCE AND FRANCES GIBB

A PRIVACY law will be introduced by default unless the Government amends its Bill to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into British law, the chairman of the Press Complaints Commission will tell the Government tomorrow.

Lord Wakeham will appeal to Chris Smith, the Culture. Arts and Media Secretary, to hold urgent talks with ministers and representatives of the newspaper industry to ensure that the commission is exempted from the Bill.

The appeal to Mr Smith comes amid a feeling of growing exasperation over the handling of the legislation by Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, who introduced the Bill in the House of Lords. The Lord Chancellor had

advised ministers that the commission would not fall into the category of a "public authority" under the Human Rights Act. On the basis of advice to the commission from David Pannick, QC, an expert in administrative law, he has admitted that he was wrong.

The Bill gives complainants the right to challenge the findings of public authorities

therefore challenge a decision by the PCC in court, which some newspaper commentators say amounts to putting the regulation of the press into judicial domain. The commission fears subjecting its rulings to lengthy appeals in the courts because that would render it ineffective and signal the end of self-regula-

6 The message for the press is plain: strengthen self-regulation and strengthen the PCC 🤊

law by the back door." said one member last night.

Despite the Lord Chancellor's change of mind, the Government appeared vesterday to be standing firm. A Home Office spokesman said that the PCC had always been covered by the Bill, so no action was necessary. Lord

Lester of Herne Hill, QC, said it would be wrong - and possibly a breach of the Euroean Convention on Human Rights — for an exception to be made for the PCC. Many other bodies, such as the Advertis-ing Standards Authority and the Broadcasting Standards Commission, would then argue that they needed to be exempt. That would be bad for free speech, because the Bill imposes on them a duty to have regard to freedom of

information as well as to

people's privacy," he said. Lord Irvine claimed yester day that the inclusion of the PCC would place newspapers in a stronger position. This is good news for the press, because the courts will regard the PCC as the primary body to provide effective protection to people who suffer from press abuses," he said, "Prorided, therefore, that self-regulation is strong and effective, the courts will not intervene with injunctions. The message for the press is plain: strengthen self-regulation and strengthen the PCC."

Lord Irvine emphasised that the individual's right to privacy would be counterbalanced by the press's right to freedom

A digital camera

that gives a whole

term 'roving eye'.



Lord Irvine and Cardinal Wolsey: the Lord Chancellor may live to regret comparing himself to Henry's adviser

of expression, also guaranteed by the Convention.

However, his comments alarmed some newspaper edi-tors. Alan Rusbridger, Editor of the Guardian, said: "I always suspected that the intention was to use the ECHR [Convention] as a backdoor privacy law." He added: "Either we should get a public interest defence or have a privacy Bill, but at the mo-

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minimal loss of image quality.

ment it is a muddle." Lord Wakeham, the PCC's chairman, declined to comment yesterday but a spokesman said: This Bill has enormous ramifications.

The Lord Chancellor does not deal with an instance where someone goes straight to court without coming to the

MINOLTA

Leading article, page 19

Blair's Wolsey is not so infallible after all

LORD IRVINE of Lairg's mission that he was wrong to think the Press Complaint Commission would be exempt from the Human Rights Bill has exposed a small but significant chink in the seemingly impregnable armour of his authority.

Cabinet colleagues who have bridled at his unprecedented position of power and influence with the Prime Minister - likened by Lord Irvine himself to that of Cardinal Wolsey with Henry VIII were none the less forced to admire his intellectual

But yesterday, ministers discovered for the first time, publicly at least, that their Lord Chancelior's legal credentials were fallible.

There are already reports of clashes behind the scenes between Lord Irvine and Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, who had said that European legislation would undermine press freedom and emasculate the Press Complaints

Lord Irvine pulled his legal weight and insisted it would L But Mr Smith, who unlike Lord Irvine has had years of dealings with the media, was proved right.

Now that Lord Irvine has been seen to err, the slip will not be lost on Cabinet colleagues who have sparred with him and resented his allpowerful hold on co-ordina-

tion of government policy. Through his unrivalled access to Tony Blair the Lord Chancellor is one of, if not the, most influential member of the Government, viewed by Cabinet colleagues with a Andrew Pierce

on the man who compares himself with the

Tudor king's confidant

mixture of admiration and dread. The Prime Minister is on the phone every day to Lord Irvine, wields more power from the Woolsack than any of his contemporary predecessors, with membership of eight Cabinet committees and the chairmanship of

Lord Irvine, who has found the move from being head of chambers to running a large government department quite a shock, does not tolerate fools. David Clark, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, who is widely expected to be the first casualty in a Cabinet reshuffle, was an early recipient of Lord

Mr Clark had planned to publish a freedom of information White Paper before the who chaired the relevant Cabinet committee, demanded more time to study its contents. He was not happy with the result, demolished Mr Clark in front of the rest of the committee, and the legislation

was delayed for 12 months. Observers were astonished by the ferocity of the diatribe. Mr Clark was badly shaken. Harriet Harman has also

been publicly rebuked by the Lord Chancellor for calling

for more woman judges. But even critics of his auto cratic style concede that he is a supreme chairman of proceedings, with an ability to cut through argument and broker a compromise. He is at his desk before breakfast and rarely leaves before 7.30pm. Middle-ranking officials who have been subjected to his acerbic tongue recall the days when the gentler, more easy-going Lord Mackay of Clashfern ruled the roost

under the last Government. He has angered the legal profession, his erstwhile colleagues. He made a fortune from private practice, specialising in employment law, but attacked the inflated fees of barristers while being the only member of the Cabinet to

take the recent pay rise in full. Outside Cabinet, his error will be seized on by media representatives, who argue that press regulation should not be in the hands of an unelected Lord Chancellor and self-acknowleged chief adviser to the Prime Minister.

CORRECTIONS

☐ Doris Lessing, the writer, has never owned a farm or any part of one, or any property, in Zimbabwe and Southern Rhodesia (report, November 29).

☐ A report (November 27) misquoted Mr Jeremy Corbyn, MP, (Lab, Islington North) addressing a student demonstration. He should have been reported as saying



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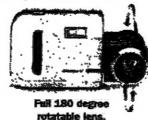
For example, unfortunately, many of them still use the same rectangular pixel CCD that's used for video. And because this rectangular system has to be converted, the quality of the pictures inevitably suffers.

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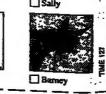
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Fees confusion is blamed for drop in teacher recruits

THE number of people apply-ing to be secondary school teachers is dropping sharply despite a £1 million cinema advertising drive.

Confusion over the Govern-ment's introduction of £1,000 university tuition fees was blamed yesterday for a 12 per cent fall in applications. Mary Russell, of the Universities Council for the Education of Teachers, said the message had not got through that the fee will not be charged for trainees on the Post Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) course. This information is missing from the Teacher Training Agency's cinema campaign.

Only 13.500 would-be teachers had applied by last Friday for the postgraduate course compared with 15,172 at the same time last year. The figures were disclosed days after the Government announced higher targets for recruitment in key subjects.

It wants 2,150 new English teachers, up on the previous Government's provisional target of 2,070. The mathematics target was set at 2,400, up on the provisional 2.270. However, the recruitment aim for modern languages was revised downwards from 2,910

Dorian Jabri, a spokesman for the agency, said it was consulting on ways to clear up confusion. "We need to find a way of gening the message across. Our recent cinema and print advertising are generatCinema adverts targets, issued last week would be difficult to meet fail to halt slide

in applications for secondary school

training, writes

David Charter es but it is early days." Ms Russell said the improving economic climate may also be

encouraging more students who had thought about teaching to try for better-paid jobs. "We are hoping things will pick up. We won't start panicking until Christmas." icking until Christmas." In a further sign of the drop in recruits, English was recently added to the list of

"shortage" subjects at second-ary level, which includes mathematics, science and modern languages. "When subjects like English start having difficulty recruiting, we know there is something wrong somewhere," she said. The one-year PGCE is taken

by most secondary school teachers while the majority of primary teachers follow the four-year Bachelor of Education degree and will have to pay tuition fees every year. BEd applications are believed to be 8 per cent down on last

John Howson, an adviser to the agency, said the shortfall ing a huge number of respons- suggested that the recruitment



Douglas: jailed for libelling Churchill

"Ground lost in the autumn is

almost never regained later in

The agency said it was receiving 100 replies a week on

response cards accompanying its cinema advertising. News-

paper advertising featuring the favourite teachers of sev-

eral celebrities was bringing in between 70 and 100 tele-

phone inquiries a week, it

added. The recruitment cam-

paign, costing £10 million over five years, was launched on October 14 under the slogan

No one forgets a good

The overall target for sec-ondary school teachers was set

last week at 19,100. Secondary

teacher courses are currently

ics, there were 2,700 places but

just 1,433 applicants.

teacher".

the academic year."

Bosie's last carer asks for jail poem

By VALERIE ELLIOTT WRITEHALL EDITOR

THE woman who cared for Lord Alfred Douglas, Oscar Wilde's young lover, in his dying days is pressing the Home Office to hand over a 15 per cent undersubscribed while primary courses are over-subscribed by 8 per cent. For courses starting this au-tumn in secondary mathematprison notebook that contains the original version of his poem In Excelsis.

Sheila Colman, a West Sussex farmer, with her late husband, Edward, gave a home to Douglas, or Bosie as

Sheila Colman with Douglas's topper. She cared for him at the end and gained copyright of his works he was known, for the last six months of his life. Now in her seventies, she is his beneficiary, owns the copyright on all his work and wishes to add the manuscript to her collection of Bosie memorabilia.

Her attempt to gain posses-sion of it coincided with the release of papers concerning Douglas, the son of the Marquess of Queensberry, last

week at the Public Record Office in Kew, southwest London. He was imprisoned for six months in 1923 for libelling Winston Churchill. The Home Office maintained that the poem In Excelsis partly repeated the libel and

could not be released. The original manuscript was not in the file at Kew, although there were copies. The original is thought to be in a Home Office vault Last night Mrs Colman said: "Bosie died a bankrupt and we had to get it annulled and pay his bankruptcy off so we could get the copyright of his

Douglas had thought the decision particularly unjust. Wilde had been allowed to take out from prison his

controversial prose work De Profundis. Douglas wrote to the Home Office "Can it be that the prison authorities approve of the vulgar, unctuous patronage of Christ perpetrated by the degenerate Wilde and disapprove of the lofty religious sentiments clothed in majestic language of the deepest reverence by

£110m 'crucial for university labs'

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

tories urgently need a cash injection, the president of the Royal Society said last night. Sir Aaron Klug urged the Government to follow the rexommendations of the Dearing report and provide

This is a small percentage of the total government Budget but I think it is crucial for the future of the UK economy," Sir Aaron said. "I do not believe I am exaggerating in saying that this small sum could make a huge difference to the state of the science base. Ron Dearing, in his report on as we face the millennium."

Sir Aaron, a Nobel Prize winner in 1982 and former Director of the Molecular

Biology Laboratory at Cambridge, said that under-funding over a number of years had led to worsening conditions for research

Among neglected areas he mentioned building maintean extra £110 million for nance, "biboratory develop-buildings and equipment, ment, core equipment for with corresponding sums in research and teaching library facilities, computing and IT, and support from technicians and research officers.

Industry, especially the highly successful pharmaceutical sector, had shown growing concern that universities in Britain would not meet their future needs, he said. Sir higher education, had recommended additional funding. This was now urgent, Sir Aaron said.

BRITAIN'S university labora-

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Harman refuses to bend in benefit row

HARRIET HARMAN made clear yesterday the Governahead with cuts in benefits for single parents despite a growing backbench rebellion.

Facing both Tory and Labour critics during a Commons debate, the Social Security Secretary defended the decision to cut benefits by up to EII a week by claiming that Labour had a "mandate to tackle social exclusion".

Two women demonstrators in the public gallery tried to interrupt her speech, shouting "scab" and telling Ms Harman: "You should be ashamed of yourself. Single mothers will never forgive you." The women, wearing Tshirts with the slogans: Single Mums -- Self Defence, and All Mothers are Working Mothers, were bundled out of the gallery by Commons staff. Ms Harman said voters had

shown at the general election that they were no longer prepared to tolerate a divided The Government would rebuild a "one nation" society with policies to help single parents and others back The key failure of the social

policy in recent years has been the failure to differentiate between these two groups. That thousands of people of working age being written off to a Rebellion or not, the Government shows every sign of sticking to its

plans for single parents, report

Jill Sherman and Polly Newton

life of dependence on benefit when the Government should have been helping them back Opening the debate, Jain

Duncan Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, accused Ms Harman of breaking Labour's pre-election promise not to cut singleparent benefit. He acknowledged that the Tories would have implemented the cuts had they remained in govern-ment, but said: "We haven't broken a pledge like the Labour Party.

Urging Ms Harman to "get a grip on her department, he went on: "There is delay. vaccilation and U-turns on policy they said they wouldn't But Ms Harman got an

easier ride than expected by her own side, Few Labour MPs dared to put their heads above the purapet and criticise the minister in public. Many of those who have spoken out publicly did not even attend

Dennis Skinner, the leftwing MP for Bolsover, poured scepticism on the Govern-

ment's Welfare to Work pro-gramme. He said there were many people who could not find work and many lone parents who did not want to work. "They want to look after their children and therefore should not be penalised because they take that honourable stance," he said.

Earlier the Prime Minister's spokesman denied speculation that the Government was preparing to delay the benefit cutbacks by six to 12 months to appease its critics.

Signs of a compromise surfaced over the weekend as more MPs spoke out publicly against the cuts. But vesterday Mr Blair's spokesman took a much tougher line. There would be no delay and no exemptions for single parents who did not find jobs, he said. "The fundamental decision is going ahead as envisaged." The only small concession

from Downing Street was an

scheme once it was running to ensure that it was working effectively or whether it need ed to be improved.

Downing Street sources tried to talk down the size of the Labour revolt, claiming that a maximum of twenty rebels would not vote with the Government when the Social Security Bill at its third reading on December 10.

But the rebels claimed that at least 50 MPs would abstain on the third reading and were hopeful that they could still secure concessions. One idea being floated is to ensure that any single parent that was unable to find a job on the Government's Welfare to Work package would be given the full lone parent benefit, backdated to April.

Under the Bill's proposals all new lone parent claimants will forgo special top-ups for child benefit and income support which existing claimants will still get. Instead they will get the same, lower, payment as married couples.

Yesterday Audrey Wise, Labour MP for Preston and one of the rebel leaders, accused Gordon Brown and Harriet Harman of a lack of compassion. They're certainly not showing much care for poverty-stricken children, and actions speak louder than



Working mother: Diane Abbott campaigning with her son, who is now six, during the 1992 general election

Cut splits select band of lone parents

By NICHOLAS WATT

LABOUR'S small band of single-parent MPs were divided yesterday over the Government's plans to cut benefits by up to Ell a week.

Diane Abbott, the left-winger who has combined her political career with raising a son aged six, censured the Government for penalising struggling parents. But other single-parent Labour MPs are

defence. They include Jane Kennedy (Liverpool Wavertree). a junior whip who has two teenage sons, and Judith Church (Dagenham), who has

two sons Caroline Flint (Don Valley), whose mother was a lone parent; is also backing the Government. "The best form of welfare is work," she said

esterday. Ms Abbott (Hackney North

returned to work at the Commons eight days after the birth of her son, James, called on the Government to delay the cuts at least until the New Deal system, which she supports, has been set up. "People do not know how hard it is until they have been a single parent," she said. Most single parents wanted to work, but they could not always do so.

single-parent MPs on the Ballard, 44. (Lib Dem, Taunton), who raised a daughter on her own after her marriage broke down, said: The previous Government hounded lone parents and made them out to be feckless 16-year-olds who got pregnant i am absolutely astounded what the Labour Government is

No wonder Blair is loath to commit himself on voting reform

FOR Tony Blair, the review of the voting system established yesterday under Roy Jenkins is a means to an end, not an end in itself. The Prime Minister's main focus is on the long-term aim of creating a modern social democratic party and ensuring that the Centre-Left is as dominant in the next generation as the Right has been in the recent

past. Everything else is secondary. Mr Blair believes that his closer links with the Liberal Democrats are working well, though ministers are occasionally irritated by what they see as "hopelessly unrealistic"

mands on public spending. Mr Blair has an open mind about how relations with the Lib Dems will develop. This will determine decisions on electoral reform.

Meanwhile, the establishment of the Independent Commission on the voting system both fulfils a manifesto pledge and keeps the Lib Dems happy, while deferrring the real decision. The terms of reference are carefully fudged, to please both Labour opponents and Lib Dem supporters of proportional representation. In a triumph of Sir Humphrey Appleby's drafting

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

serve the requirement for broad proportionality, the need for stable government, an extension of voter choice and the maintenance of a link between MPs and geographical constituencies". This rules out very little, except possibly an en-tirely proportional system, as in

Moreover, the commission "shall be free to consider and recommend any appropriate system or combination of systems". So it could come up with an alternative or preferential system in single-member constituencies with a top-up from party lists on a proportional basis.

The commission is sensibly small, at five, with men and women of business who will not test the patience of Lord Jenkins of Hillhead - Lord Alexander of Weedon, a leading Tory lawyerbusinessman who supports consti-tutional reform; Lady Gould of Potternewton, a Labour peer: Sir-John Chilcot, a retiring Permanent Secretary; and the political journalist David Lipsey. This group is broadly pro-reform, though in a pragmatic, unobsessive, way. The key is less what the commis-

sion recommends, than how the Blair Government responds. In the past Mr Blair has not been "per-suaded" of the case for PR. Like most MPs, he stresses the constituency link and is wary of allowing a smaller party to have excessive influence. Some senior Blairites, like Peter Mandelson, back the alternative vote - though, if the will is there, there should be scope for a compromise on some hybrid system. The Government is committed to a referendum before the next

election on the choice between a new system and first-past-the-post. It would be very odd if the Cabinet did not make a recommendation. Since a referendum could probably not be held until late 1999 or 2000. any changes could almost certainly not be implemented, and perhaps not enacted, until after the next election since there would have to be legislation as well as a review of constituency boundaries. Such a prospect should keep most Lib Dems on board.

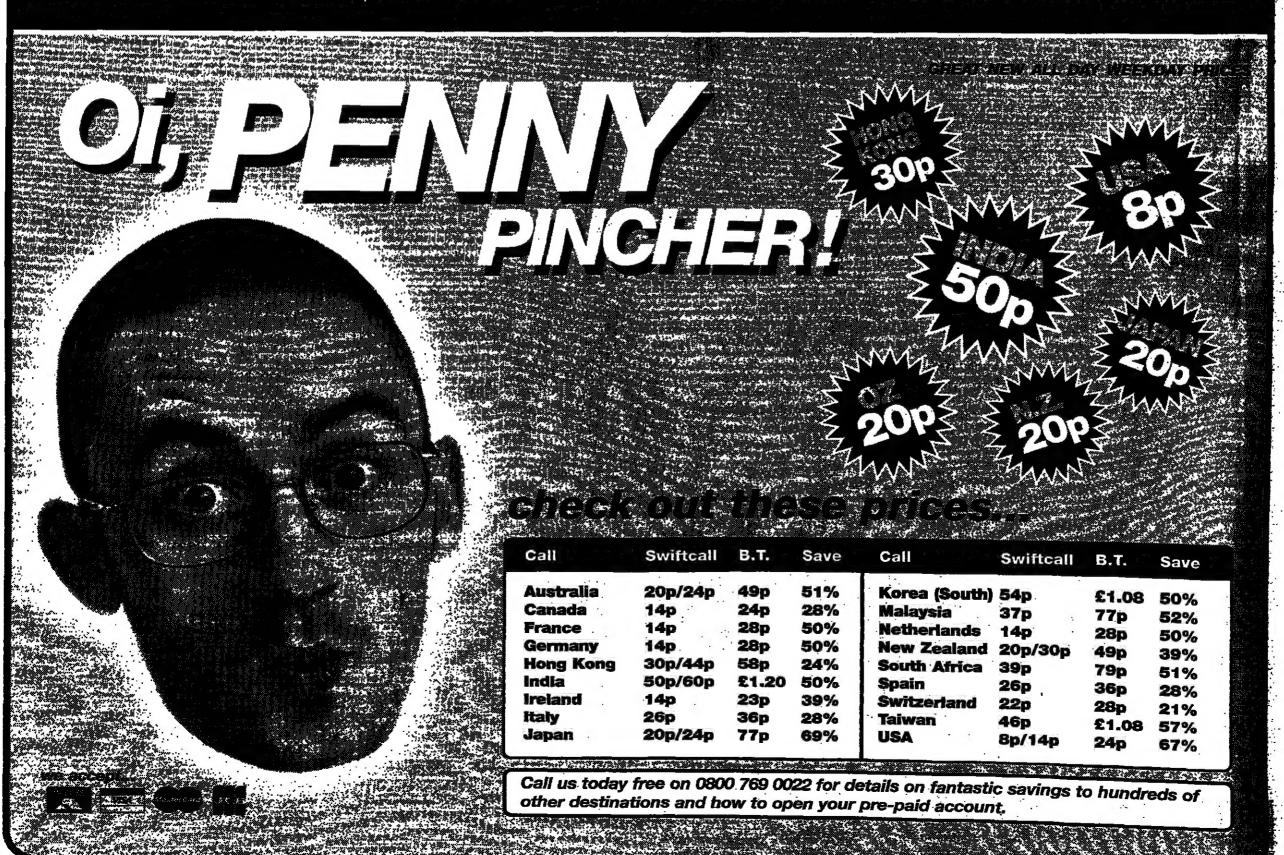
Any changes would have farreaching implications for the future shape of politics. But for many

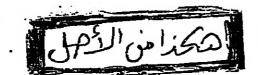
MPs, the key is what happens to them. While the adoption of just the alternative vote would not alter constituency links, any other system would either increase the size of the Commons or involve a cut in the number of single-member constituencies. But the Commons is already too large at 659. No wonder Mr Blair is not committing himself for the time being. But the fastidious Lord Jenkins would not have become involved without being assured that his efforts would not

PETER RIDDELL

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New claret knocks Rothschild from top of wine list

clarets has bruised the reputa tions of some of the world's most renowned wines.

An American professor's recalculation of prices com-manded by the top claretproducing chateaux of Bordeaux shows a complete newcomer shooting straight to the top of the rankings.

Orley Ashenfelter, who produces a wine newsletter called Liquid Assets from his office in Princeton, has reused the method employed to determine the 1855 classification of the wines of Medoc and Graves, the league table still officially recognised today.

The 1855 classification was drawn up by the Bordeaux Syndicate of Brokers and was based on the prices the wines. fetched in the market place. Mr Ashenfelter, who specialises in charning wine auc-

tion prices, first used computer analysis of sales figures to produce a new classification in 1988 but says he thought it was "high time" to recalculate his

In the latest issue of Liquid Assets he writes: "Much has

14 (17) Pichon Lainnde: 2nd growth Parities, 15 (14) Certan de Hay: Grosssing (18) (18) (12) Palmer: 3rd growth Margains, 18)

19 (28) Lynch Bages: 5th go

An American professor's study of auction prices

shows changes

in Bordeaux, says

Jane MacQuitty chareaux that barely enisted a decade ago have enisted the ranking at the top. And other chareaux have slipped badly. Our new ranking approaches a glimpse of a traditional wine

mark because it was classified

as the top wine of all in

only since 1979. Mr Ashenfelter found that on average Le Pin's wines now growing region in the midst of sold at seven times the price commanded by Lafite, and almost twice as much as those Mr Ashenfelter analysed more of the previous holder of the than 10,000 London auction" title of "most expensive red transactions from May 1994 wine in the world. Château Pêtrus. Le Pin's phenomenal until last December, comparing prices of wines of the same success is almost entirely due vintage sold in the same to rarity value and the enthusimonth with the prices fetched asm of buyers in the Far East. by Chateau Lafite Rothschild No more than 600 cases of Le Lafite was taken as the bench-Pin are made each year.

Another new entrant is Le Terre-Roteboeut, a small St Emilion property that enters the table at No 24, already commanding prices more than half those of Lafite.

ation only wines from vintages

that were at least ten years old by the end of his study period.

staff," he says.
The new ranking differs

very much, not only from the 1855 classifiaction but even

from that Mr Ashenfelter pro-

duced in 1988. The top wine, Le

Fin. appears for the first time,

having become the most ex-

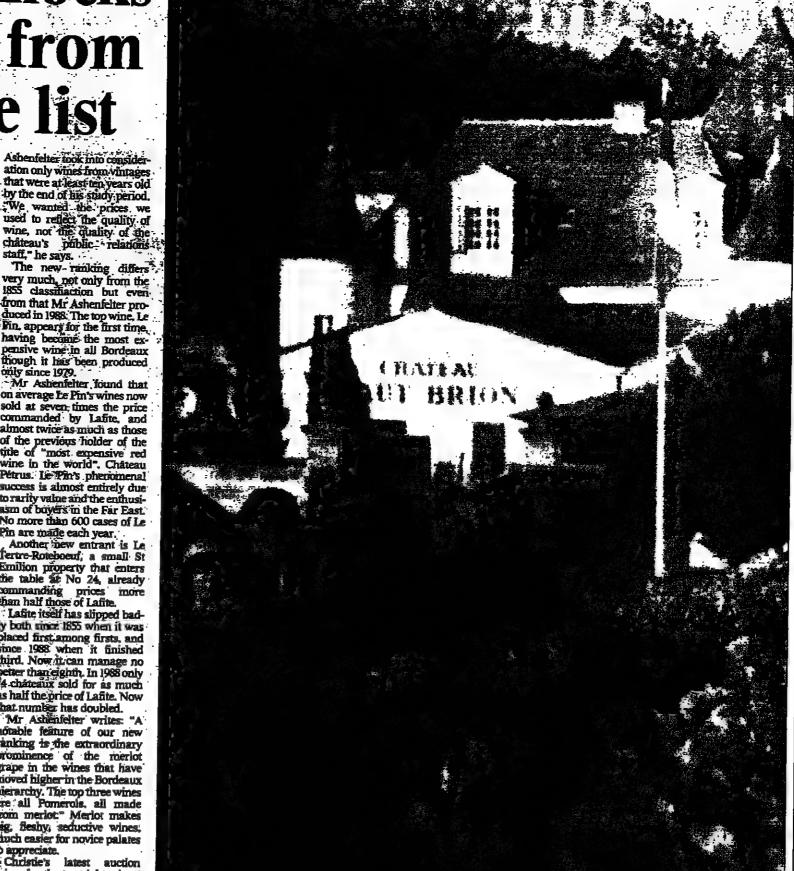
pensive wine in all Bordeaux

though it has been produced

Lafite itself has slipped badly both since 1855 when it was placed first among firsts, and since 1988 when it finished third. Now it can manage no better than eighth. In 1988 only 14 châteaux sold for as much as half the price of Lafite. Now that number has doubled. Mr Ashenfelter writes: "A

notable feature of our new ranking is the extraordinary prominence of the merlot grape in the wines that have moved higher in the Bordeaux hierarchy. The top three wines are all Pomerois, all made from meriot." Meriot makes big, fleshy, seductive wines, much easier for novice palates to appreciate.

Christie's latest auction prices for the top eight wines'. 1982 vintages have been: Le Pin El8,000 a case; Petrus £9,000; Lafleur £7,800; Mouton-Rothschild E3.800: Cheval Blanc £3,800; Latour £3,200; Margaux £2,800; Lafite-Roth-



Grape pickers in the Graves area at the Chateau Haut Brion, which is included in Mr Ashenfelter's top ten

NEWS IN BRIEF

Council tax rise of 7% is expected

Householders face average council tax rises of 7 per cent and cuts in local authority services as a result of government spending limits for 1998-99. John Prescott, Secretary of State for the Environment, is expected to announce today an easing of council tax capping measures and a reassessment of rating bands, making more valuable properties pay a higher tax. Councils say they will be short of more than £1 billion next year despite the extra £835 million allocated to education in the Budget

Taxi driver killed

A woman taxi driver was found beaten to death after picking up a passenger in Galway. Eileen Costello O'Shaughnessy, 47, who has two adult children, was discovered in a remote lane with severe head injuries.

Loner Londoners

Londoners are the worst communicators in Britain, according to a survey by the mobile phone company Orange. Only 17 per cent are likely to react to a friendly gesture against a national average of 37.5 per

Murder petition

The parents of Lee Harvey. who was stabbed to death a year ago by Tracie Andrews, his fiancée, have delivered a petition of 3,000 signatures to 10 Downing Street calling for the restoration of the death penalty for murder.

Laser amnesty

An amnesty allowing the safe disposal of laser pointers has been launched by police and trading standards officers on Merseyside after 43 incidents involving the pens in two weeks. It may be extended nationwide if successful.

Double blow

Graham Toon, a sacked Exeter airport worker, suffered twice at the hands of an appeals tribunal. One of the panel, Torbay council leader lan Fenton, ran into his car on the way to County Hall, then he lost his appeal.



A cardigan, how lovely, no really, it's just what wanted and paisley as well, how...unique.

US melted down gold of victims of the Holocaust

AMERICA melted down the personal effects of Holocaust victims and returned the gold to European central banks seven years after the end of the Second World War, a conference opening in London will

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York is planning to release a series of unpublished documents to the conference of historians, including evidence that the United States Treasury melted down gold plates, buttons, coins and ornaments

into gold bars. Gold returned to European countries was thought previously to have consisted purely of monetary ingots stolen from central banks by the Nazis. But the Federal Reserve documents now establish that more than 40 bars created by the United States Assay Office in 1952 were made from the personal effects of individuals

- some of whom were presumably victims of the

Holocaust. The evidence is being used by Jewish groups and the American Government to insist that Holocaust survivors and their relatives receive \$54 million (£33.7 million) in gold which remains in the possession of the Tripartite Commission, the group set up by Britain, America and France after the Second World War to

return Nazi plunder. Switzerland will face demands in London today to hand over tens of billions of pounds to compensate victims of the Holocaust. The conference, which will be attended by delegates from 42 countries, will be told that 85 per cent of Nazi gold went directly to, or was laundered through, Switzerland. Much is still in bank vaults.

"As far as we are concerned,

we are pursuing justice," said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress. "Stolen goods should be returned to their rightful owners or their heirs." Other ethnic groups, includ-ing gypsies, will also be repre-sented at the three-day conference, organised by Rob-

Lord Janner of Braunstone. chairman of the Holocaust Educational Trust, described the event as a "moral miracle". All nations approached had agreed to send delegates, including the Vatican.

Allied governments are

in Cook, the Foreign

delighted at the resurfacing in Vienna of microfilm records of the Nazi Reichsbank's transactions. Senior participants in the conference said it would clarify how much gold taken from Holocaust victims and stored in a separate SS ac-



Lord Janner, of the Holocaust Educational Trust, with Nazi gold hars. He called the conference a "moral miracle"

count was sent to Switzerland and other neutral countries. Another conference will be held next year, probably in the United States, to discuss the whereabouts of art and other treasures looted by the Nazis.

Lord Janner said he hoped there would be no unpleasantness as answers were sought. Delegates from other neutral countries, including Sweden, are also likely to face strong questioning about their roles

country, too, will not escape. British banks have been accused of holding assets belonging to Jews from enemy countries but a report on the

during the war. The host the conference, Responding to a question yesterday by an Austrian journalist who accused the British Government of theft, Lord Janner said: "I am very disappointed that the report is not out now."

Swiss had PoW cash deal with Japanese

From Peter Capella in berne

IN A SECRET deal reached in 1944. Japan and Swizer-land planned to divert Allied money, paid to Switzerland for the care of prisoners of war held by the Japanese, to pay off Tokyo's debts to Swiss

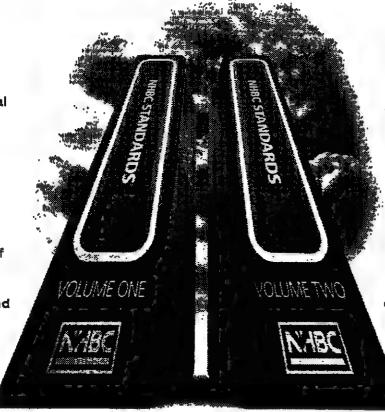
The deal came to light in a coded message written by Swiss officials in 1945 and will be among documents presented to the London conference

on Nazi gold. Nazi Germany took \$146 million in gold from Holocaust victims and other individuals, according to a Swiss study released yesterday. The study by international histo-rians appointed by Berne also said Swiss commercial banks took in \$61.2 million of gold from Nazi Germany, three times as much as previously assumed. All amounts were i 1945 prices.

Six banks received the bullion in 1940 and 1941. More than two thirds were delivered to the Swiss Bank Corporation, now the third largest

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WORLD IN BRIEF

Spain calls British 'bluff' on Gibraltar

Madrid: Spain is prepared to jeopardise Nato's reorganisation and expansion rather than give in to British demands that it drop military restrictions on Gibraltar (Giles Tremlett writes). Abel Manutes, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday that his country was ready to call Britain's bluff over its threat to veto a new Nato structure that would give Spain full membership. His insistence that Spain would stand its ground came as diplomats from both countries began last-minute talks to end a stalemate that threatens to spoil Nato's plans for change. A final agreement on Nato's new structure and its expansion is meant to be reached at a Nato foreign ministers' meeting on December 16.

Honour for hero of My Lai

New York: The American helicopter pilot who halted the 1968 My Lai massacre by US servicemen in the Vietnam War is to be honoured with the Soldier's Medal for his bravery after a campaign prompted by a BBC television documentary (James Bone writes). Hugh Thompson, then a warrant officer, landed at the site and plucked a Vietnamese child from a mass grave before heading back to base. He told commanders of the carnage and they ordered a ceasefire. Lieutenant William Caley, who led the massacre of suspected civilian collaborators, was convicted of 22 murders and served three years behind bars.

Basketball star earns \$78.3m

New York: Michael Jordan, right, the basketball star, who was paid an estimated \$78.3 million (£46.5 million) this year, is once again the world's richest athlete, according to Forbes magazine. Jordan, who has held tha distinction for five of the past six years, is expected to earn \$31.3 million from the Chicago Bulls and \$47 million in commercial endorsements, Forbes said. Then come the boxers Evander Holyfield (\$54.3 million) and Oscar De La Hoya, with \$38 million. (AFP)



Pupil guns down classmates

West Paducah: A 14-year-old pupil opened fire in a Kentucky high school lobby as classmates took part in an informal prayer service. One pupil was killed and seven wounded, some critically. The boy was detained after the shooting at Heath High School. He had brought a handgun and ear plugs with him to school, Bill Bond, the principal, said. "He's a very intelligent young man. He had some minor problems, but he's never been suspended." The boy had told others last week that "something big was going to happen". (AP)

Life for German police killer

Lübeck: Kay Diesner, an extreme rightwinger, was convicted here of murder and on two charges of attempted murder and was sentenced to life imprisonment in what was believed to be the first neo-Nazi killing of a German police officer. The police said that Diesner. 25, who called himself a freedom fighter and prisoner of war, confessed to shooting a left-wing bookshop owner and, later, opening fire on two policemen at a motorway service station. Officer Stephen Grage was killed. (AP)

Algerian village slaughter

Paris: Gunmen thought to be Muslim fundamentalists shot or hacked to death 29 villagers in the southwestern Algerian province of Saida at the weekend, Algerian newspapers reported. Sixty extremists stormed Hassi Labed village after blowing up a bridge to hinder government troops. They went on an orgy of slaughter as they set homes ablaze, and fled after abducting two girls and a woman. (Reuters)

Struggle over Onassis fortune



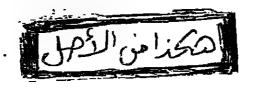
fourth husband of the late Christina Onassis, says he fears for the wellbeing of his daughter Athina, left, heir to the \$3 billion (£1.8 billion) Onassis fortune. Disclosure of an alleged plot to kidnap the 12-year-old has thrown light on a bitter legal battle pitting M Roussel against Stelios Papadimitriou, president of the Onassis Foundation. and three other Greek trustees of Christina's will who are managing the estate until Athina reaches 18. (Reuters)

Water rationed in Manila

Manila: Water rationing has been introduced in the Philippines capital because of a drought caused by El Niño, the phenomenon which changes weather patterns by warming the Pacific (Abby Tan writes). The city's ten million people will have tap water supplies for only 12 hours a day. The restrictions, which are likely to last until next June, will be enforced by police parols.

Banda to make opulent exit

Blantyre: Hastings Banda, the late President of Malawi, is to be buried in a £23,000 gold-plated coffin accompanied by his trademark walking stick and black Homburg. He will be buried at Capital Hill, in a new cemetery for presidents. As the founding President of Malawi, he will be the first occupant. (AFP)



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Recycled swabs add to risks of Aids in India

WORLD Aids Day yesterday did not matter to the prosperous family occupying an uncommonly large house in the grubby Ansari Nagar neighbourhood of Delhi: like many other families, they were busy with the lucrative business of recycling hospital waste, including used needles that are packaged and sold as new.

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Half the infectious waste from the city's 32 hospitals and 2.500 nursing homes is estimated to make its way to the marketplace. Even cotton wool used in surgery is washed and resold. The Ansari Nagar family owns four huts for the storage of discarded syringes, bottles, blood bags, gloves and

bandages. Much of the waste ends up in markets in Delhi, but most is sent by lorry to the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, where hospital-waste mafias have cornered the business. They put it in new packing indistinguishable from the real thing, and it is sold to unsuspecting customers at full price.

A private environmental organisation, Vatavaran, estimates that the family in Ansari Nagar makes a profit of 80,000; rupees (£1,260) a Reused medical

waste is big

business. Christopher

Thomas writes

month, a huge income by local standards. Staff at Safdarjung Hospital, a government estab-lishment in central Delhi, receive 18,000 rupees a month from the family for the supply of waste products. Police are paid 1.000 rupees a month to ignore the racket.

Or Iqual Malik, director of Vatavaran, said the business affected the health of all 3,000 families in Ansari Nagar. Children were pricked by sy-ringes when playing, skin diseases were common and there were frequent outbreaks of infections diseases such as hepatitis B. Transactions in hospital waste are conducted openly despite a Supreme Court ruling in March 1996 that hospitals must properly dispose of waste. The Ansari Nagar family employs several people who wash used ban-

dages and cotton wool. Dr Maliq said the workers had no hand, nose or mouth protection. The Government and the Central Pollution Control Board were either ignorant of the practice or did not care.

India has more Aids cases than any other country. A huge prostitution industry is mainly to blame: according to one estimate, half the prostitutes in Bombay are HTV-posi-tive. The United Nations estimates three million people nationwide are infected.

The Indian Health Organisation, a voluntary group, be-lieves infections in the country will roughly double every 18 months and within four years there will be 20 million to 50 million HIV-positive Indians — as many as 5 per cent of the population. The death toll could be 6,000 to 12,500 a day. "In many parts of the country, no one has told people they are vulnerable." Dr I.S. Gilada. the group's secretary-general, said. "Many rural people have never heard of Aids."

The Aids epidemic has little political priority and the severity of the crisis is not readily admitted by the Government. It admits to only 3,000 deaths from Aids, despite an unoffi-cial figure of more than



Prostitutes and health workers on a World Aids Day march in the red-light district of Delhi yesterday to call for better medical facilities

125,000. Much of the money en by international donors for HTV education has gone unspent.India is shocked at its new status as the Aids capital of the world: It has always tion of the sexually liberal West, but it underestimated how many men use prostitutes. Even with prostitutes, the use of condoms is extremely rare, despite their being given away free. With low

literacy, few television sets and patchy medical facilities. India has one of the world's

lowest awareness levels of Aids.

Candlelit vigil: Aids aware-

ing a candlelit vigil in London last night, including a special tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales, for her efforts to highlight the plight of sufferers. in China, Aids activists

after a week spreading a "safe sex" message along the rail-ways. in South Africa, the Government launched a campaign to combat discrimination against Aids sufferers and arrived in Beijing yesterday

Generation X takes the credit and runs

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

GENERATION X has discovered credit cards - and has no shame in filing for bankruptcy to avoid paying the bills, credit card companies have found to their

horror in the run-up to Christmas. The phenomenon of "young deadbeats" - people in their twenties or early thirties who refuse to pay up — is growing explosively; provoking the credit industry into a public relations drive in an attempt to urge values such as prudence and shame on their young customers.

It may be too late, according to a Wall-

ing targeted by credit card firms, receiving application forms through the post or seeing them pinned to college notice boards, "X-ers" are having their revenge.

The Federal Reserve reports that the average debt for people under 35 rose by 32 per cent between 1992 and 1995, outstripping the growth in debt for older people. The average level of credit card debt was \$1,500 (£890) or, if student loans and mortgages are included, \$15,200. Much of the debt comes from impulsive purchases, such as holidays, mountain bikes and cars.

Credit card companies report that their younger customers are displaying more single debt exceed a few hundred dollars, discouraging creditors from pursuing

According to a study by Visa, more are choosing bankruptcy as a way out. Last year it found that 8.7 per cent of those filing for bankruptcy were under 25. A few years ago, the level was I per cent. Financial experts, spurred by losses as well as criticism in the Senate of their

marketing tactics, are battling to change these habits. But it may be hard. One lawyer in Easton. Maryland. complains that his young clients list the unused spending room on their credit cards when

Tensions rise in Pakistan

Islamabad: Rolls of barbed wire and police in riot gear surrounded the Pakistan Supreme Court yesterday, guarding against more vio-lence in an intensifying political fend between Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, and Sajjad Ali Shah, the Chief Justice. General Jehangir Karamat, the army Chief of Staff. met President Leghari as fears grew that the military would intervene and

seize control. (AP)

White farmers' last harvest

been deprived of their farms,

"we expect them to till the

land". He added: "We will

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

THE Zimbabwe Government yesterday announced it expect-ed to begin ordering white farmers listed under President Mugabe's planned mass expropriation to leave their

farms next August. In the first public statement by the Government since the gazetting last week of about 1,500 farms for "compulsory acquisition". Kumbirai Kangai, the Lands Minister, said

give them the opportunity to harvest. In August we will have completed the final process and we will start reallocating."
Mr Kangai said the law gave farmers the right to

appeal. Observers, however, say the Government now needs only to state that it needs the farm to justify its expropriation and that this removes all possible grounds for objection.

Golfer's regret: Mark McNulty, the prominent Zimbabwean golfer, told 3,000 spectators at the Zimbabwe Open that he had been "saddened to learn that his family's farm in the Centenary district had been listed. "It makes it very difficult to come back to a country where my birthright has been taken

the Commercial Farmers

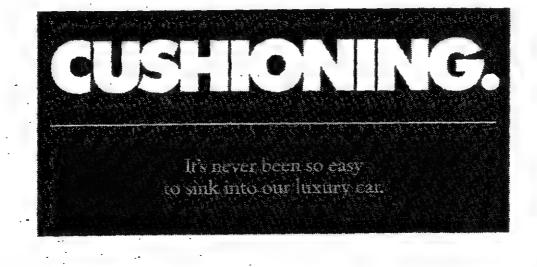
Union, whose 4,500 members

stand to lose 12.4 million acres,

said: "I have never heard of

this one before."

TO THE HEALT OF



Fifty years of peace fail to dispel fears among Germany's neighbours

GERMANY'S dominant position in continental Europe is still evoking fears among its neighbours and partners, according to opinion surveys and books that agonise over relations with the Germans.

The anxiety about the Germans is remarkable not only because it lingers on more than 50 years after the Second World War but also because the political classes of all

European Union states share

broadly similar goals. Yet a survey conducted by the Clingendael Institute for International Relations, based in The Hague, found that Dutch schoolchildren ranked Germany last in the European sympathy list and considered it as a country "addicted to war". Germans were described as domineering, arrogant, un-

friendly and unsociable. The poll sampled 1,211 pupils. aged between 14 and 16, at 13 Dutch schools. When the institute carried out similar studies in 1993 and 1995 there was outrage in Germany and self-questioning in The Nether-

lands about the negative imagery. lands about the negative imagery.

The latest survey shows that, if anything. Germany has lost ground since the earlier sampling. Thus 62 per cent of the Dutch children believe Germany to be a democratic country, compared with 72 per cent in 1995. Two years ago only 18 per cent of Dutch children thought there was a big

gap between rich and poor in Germany: now 27 per cent think there is a gulf.

Similar tones are being struck in other European Union states, including Britain, Denmark, France and Austria. Research commissioned by the Conservative Party revealed this week that hostility towards Germany fuels much of the public opposition to a European single currency. The antipathy towards Germany was most evident among the over-45-year-olds,

but younger people also expressed worries. "We would end up being ruled by Germans", was a typical response from six focus groups.

Measuring antipathy is notoriously difficult. An analysis of the changing attitude of the French press towards Germany, however, found that even sober financial newspapers have been describing the Germans as arrogant and complaining about their neighbour's desire to "exercise hegemony over Europe". Wolfgang Proissl,

writing in Die Zeit about French attitudes, believes the rawer tone comes from the weakening of Helmut Kohl and the stumbling

progress of the Germany economy. Danish resentments about Germany have been surfacing in politics, where the anti-German Danish People's Party recently picked up about 10 per cent of the vote in local elections, and in the bookshops where sociological and literary works have started to question the relationship with

maire E Germany. Bertel Haader, a political scientist, tries to get to the bottom of Tyskerhad - hatred of Germans. In a fast-selling book, he traces this antipathy to repressed memories of Danish warning collaboration with the Nazis the profitable supply of mear to the Wehrmacht and the 5,500 Danish volunteers for the Waffen SS. History books emphasise Danish heroism in saving thousands of Jews, and play down the wartime

Israelis rebuff Albright with settlement plan

THE Israeli Government yesdisaffected Washington by granting permission for the building of homes for 900 more Jewish families in the occupied West Bank.

The go-ahead for such a large expansion of the settlement of Alfei Menashe is seen as a public rejection of the repeated call for a "time-out" in settlement building issued by Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State.

The scheme was made public after growing tensions in the West Bank led last weekend to the worst Arab-Israeli violence for more than six months. One hardline Cabinet member. Limor Livnat, the Communications Minister. said that the decision to expand settlements had been an integral part of Sunday's vote to sanction an unspecified troop withdrawal from the West Bank.

"In any case, and this can be seen in paragraph five of the Cabinet decision, there will be no time-out on settlement." said Ms Livnat.

The clause she referred to states: "The Cabinet will take the necessary steps for the continued existence and strengthening of West Bank settlements." The plan to go

head with the settlement at Alfei Menashe was revealed by Shiomo Katan, head of the Jewish district council in the occupied area, who told Israel radio that the 900 homes would be built on a hill within the settlement, in addition to 300 other new housing units in the same development approved by the Government

three weeks ago.
Binyamin Netanyahu, the
Israeli Prime Minister, has repeatedly insisted that no halt will be called to the

Netanyahu's office raided

Jerusalem: The office of Binyamin Netanyahu was at the centre of a new scandal yesterday as police officers pursued investigations into alleged fraud and forgery connected with an organisation to help immigrants (Christopher Walker writes). Israel TV reported that documents from the office had been seized two weeks ago. Avigdor Lieberman, directorgeneral of the office, resigned last month amid reports he was being investigated, allegedly for not repaying a loan from an immigrant group.

"natural expansion" of existing settlements. This is one reason why President Clinton has ostentatiously refused to find time for a meeting with him, while at the same time seeing King Hussein of Jordan and Shimon Peres, the

Yesterday's announcement came as the Palestine Libera-tion Organisation officially rejected the conditional troop withdrawal offered by Mr Netanyahu, and left-wing op-ponents in the Knesset tabled wo no-confidence motions in

former Israeli Prime Minister.

reaction to it. The Israeli Government's decision is an attempt to bypass the signed agreements to change terms of reference of the deals and thus to scrap the peace process," said Tayeb Abdel-Rahin, an official who speaks on behalf of Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader. "It is also aimed at aborting international moves, especially those of the United States and Europe, and throwing dust in our eyes."

The offer was also rejected by Egypt. "What we heard is an Israeli decision that will not push the peace process forward but rather will create more complications," Amr Moussa, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, said.



Henry Ford takes his son Edsel, his successor, for a ride in a Model F Ford in Detroit in 1904. Top left is Henry Ford II, who was in charge from 1945 to 1980, and below, William Clay Ford Jr, who is expected to take control of the company his great-grandfather founded

Ford poised to put family back into the driving seat

FROM JAMES BONE

THE Ford Motor Company is ready to hand the firm back to a member of the Ford family after a break of almost two decades. According to Time magazine, William Clay Ford Jr will take charge of the company his greatgrandfather founded when the present chairman retires at the end of 1999. The company emphasised that no formal decision had yet been taken. "Bill Jr", 40, runs the family's Detroit Lions football team and chairs

reportedly share responsibility for the

car-maker with Jacques Nasser, now

president of automotive operations. The Fords control about 40 per cent of the company's stock and William Ford Jr will be the fourth generation to serve in the top job. Ford's finance committee. He will

Henry Ford ran the company from its creation in 1903 until 1918, to be succeeded by Edsel Ford, who served until 1943. and then his grandson

Henry Ford 11, who held the post from 1945 to 1980. William Ford Jr holds degrees from Princeton University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is known as a American Civil War buff who has helped to make Ford more aware of the environmental impact of carmaking.



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Testimony to

fields of apa

Winnie 'gave me gun and money to kill'

A POPULAR Soweto doctor was killed on the orders of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. who offered 20,000 rands the job, one of two men convicted of the murder

claimed yesterday. Cyril Zakhele Mbatha, serving a life sentence for the murder of Dr Abu-Baker Asvat in 1989, told the Truth and Reconciliation Commission she gave him the pistol he used for the killing. In further highly-charged

testimony, Piers Pigou, an investigator for the commission, said a wimess who had been willing to give evidence that may have further implicated Mrs Mandela in the 1988 abduction and disappearance of Lolo Sono, a township activist, had vanished yester day. Mrs Mandela had contacted the man at the weekend, Mr Pigou said.

Another commission official. Hanif Vally, said: "We have had private reports at commission level that Mrs Mandela has been contacting wimesses who have been subpoenaed." He asked for a clear statement that such contacts would stop. Ishmail Semenya, Mrs Mandela's lawyer, said the commission should press charges if it had evidence of witness intimidation.

There was no doubting the intimidating presence of eight men who prowled around the

Signs are growing that witnesses to the truth commission have been intimidated, Sam Kiley writes

ers of Mrs Mandela, the men were dressed in military fatigues and red berets.

Peter Soller, Mr Mbatha's lawyer, said his client was unwilling to testify because of the uniformed men, who he feared would harm his family, When Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the chairman, guaran-teed the safety of his family, Mr Mbatha took his place, wearing dark glasses that were intended as a disguise, Archbishop Tutu ordered Mr Mbatha to remove the glasses.

danced outside the hearing in support of Mrs Mandela. Archbishop Tutu said he

was concerned about intimidation. He told Mr Semenya: "It may not emanate from your client but it is clear there is a miasma covering some of the people who have come here or who might be

Another key witness, Albertina Sisulu, a veteran antiapartheid activist and wife of Walter Sisulu, the former

deputy president of the African National Congress, stunned the hearing when she denied having admitted Katiza Cebekhulu to the clinic where she worked with Dr Asvat the day before he was

Mr Cebekhulu is in hiding in Britain after giving evi-dence to the commission last week that he had seen Mrs Mandela stab Stompie Moeketsi Seipei, another teenage activist whose body was found on waste ground in Soweto in

Mrs Sisulu said in a television interview this year that the handwriting on Mr Cebekhulu's admission card was her own. Yesterday she

Mr Mbatha said he had committed a "terrible murder for which I am now serving the right sentence".

Giving a tearful apology to the Asvat family, he said he met Mrs Mandela, then Nelson Mandela's wife, at her Soweto home on the day of the murder. He said she told him there was a man who was "disturbing" her political work and she wanted someone to "remove that person".

alleged that Mrs Mandela had fallen out with Dr Asvat because he would not sign a certificate saying that four youths, including Stomple and Mr Cebekhulu, had been sodomised by another of her



Winnie Madikizela-Mandela yesterday with Jabulile Zwane, eight, daughter of Charles Zwane, who gave evidence about the "football club" bodyguard

Santa's lovelorn reindeer sees red

FROM JAMES BONK IN NEW YORK

A MAN from South Dakota who took the role of playing Santa so seriously he bought a herd of reindeer came to grief when a jealous rutting bull attacked him.

James Emery, 40, has played Santa in the small town of Belle Fourche since 1975 and every year he bleaches his long red hair and bleaches his long red hair and beard for the part. In 1995 he paid several thousand dollars for three reindeer to accompa-

ny his sleigh. The largest, Casper, a 550lb bull, seemed withdrawn but all that changed one day in September when Mr Emery added two females to his herd. When he went out to feed them the next morning, Casper charged and for an hour strutted around with Mr Em-ery impaled on his antiers before pinning him to the ground. "He thought I was

trying to steal his women." Eventually a local rancher lassoed the reindeer's hind legs. Mr Emery slipped free, and Casper dropped dead from a heart attack. Mr Emery survived with puncture wounds to the calf and ribs, but says it was quite a scare. He now owns four cows,

two baby females, a steer and a buil. They are all fine now the rut is over," he says. There is about a month a year when I have to be really

Testimony to 'killing fields of apartheid' found in mass graves

dreds of black anti-apartheid fighters and political activists were dumped after being murdered by South African security police have been uncovered by investigators,

l'earns working for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission investigating human rights abuses before President Mandela came to power have found at least 260 hodies at several sites.

"It is a human tragedy these killings fields of apartheid," Mathews Phosa, premier of Mpumalanga pro-vince and chief legal adviser of the ruling African National

Congress, said yesterday.
The bodies of missing guerrillas from the ANC's armed wing. Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), as well leaders aligned with the ANC. have been found as a result of statements by police seeking amnesty for the murders,

Families of victims wept and sang as the bodies of activists who disappeared during the 1980s were exhumed at the weekend from unmarked graves in Mpuma-

langa, east of Johannesburg. The sister of one victim had been told that he was killed when a landmine he was carrying exploded. "His body does not show signs of being blown up. He was executed,

Mr Phosa demanded an apology from the previous white-led Government for the killings, saying that the National Party of F. W. de Klerk, the former President, must have known of the killings and the graves. Mr de Klerk

6 De Klerk's ignorance claim is like Hitler saying he did not know about Auschwitz 9

has denied all knowledge of political murders during his term. P. W. Botha, his prede-cessor, has refused to attend commission hearings and ignored subpoenas, dismissing the proceedings as a "circus". Mr Phosa said: "De Klerk has always said he did not know, and he wants us to believe that. It's like Hitler saying he did not know about Ausch-

witz." The commission chair-

man, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, said that Mr Botha would face arrest if he ignored a subpoena to appear

on Friday. Most of the bodies have been found in Northern Province and Mpumalanga, which have borders with Zimbabwe, Botswana and Mozambique and were used as bases for ANC guerrillas.

In one case, the remains of 70 fighters were found in the Moumalanga town of Plet Retief, named after a Voortrekker leader. A farming area, Piet Retief has a reputation for secret killings.
Some of the graves were found in ordinary graveyards but many were in fields. Mr Phosa said policemen impli-cated in the killings, who had missed the deadline to seek amnesty from the commis-

sion, would be prosecuted.
The graves are too many and the people who have applied for amnesty are too few. There will be prosecutions. I have no doubt about it," he said. "We all had two years to apply for amnesty. If they haven't taken that opportunity, we are going to prose-cute them, because it indicates a very racist state of mind. It's saying. 'We don't care about these blacks who died'."

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Reno bars counsel on funding

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

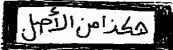
JANET RENO, the US Attorney-General, is widely expect-ed today to reject the appointment of an independent counsel to investigate telephone fundraising calls by President Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore.

She is expected to conclude, having consulted her advisers on Sunday, that the telephone calls amounted only to a technical violation of an obscure statute. Ms Reno's decision, delayed for months as new evidence emerged, would remove the most serious threat to Mr Gore's campaign for the presidency in 2000.

She must also decide by today whether Hazel O'Leary. the former Energy Secretary. improperly sought a charitable contribution from an Asian business group that wanted to meet her.

Republicans, anticipating the decision not to appoint a special counsel, criticised Ms Reno yesterday. Orrin Hatch, of Utah, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, accused her of wrongly focusing on a single issue: whether the calls had violated an Act that bans fundraising on





The best school in Britain?

calm hangs over the classroom as, having Rapunzel, the children compose letters to the Wicked Witch, "You best go away from here. Witch," inscribes one child in a laborious hand, tongue protruding as he warms to his theme.

Previously, these little paragons of virtue had taxed the patience and resources of primary schools all over Birmingham with their complex emotional and behavioural problems. But they have been happily absorbed into the Excluded Unit at the city's Grove Primary School whose own pupils, responding to the principle that each child has unique talents which must be recognised by all, have no need of this special provision.

If the least able are imbued with a sense of purpose and achievement, the top layer of academically gifted pupils at the Grove are encouraged to fly beyond the traditional confines of primary schooling.

Ten per cent of 9, 10 and 11year-olds are creamed off for fast-track tuition in mathematics and English. The mixed age group also tackles creative writing classes, philosophy and nuclear physics. the latter consisting of modules selected from first-year undergraduate courses by visiting tutor Dr Ranjit Sondhi. Last summer eight pupils. aged 10 and 11, sat their GCSE maths exam, all successfully. and the trend is set to continue.

Yet Grove School, situated in Handsworth, an urea of high unemployment, crime and the focus of inner-city rioting in the Seventies, would seem to have the odds stacked against it. Free school meals. an indicator of social need, are taken by up to 75 per cent of pupils, while 80 per cent speak English as a second language. often arriving as three-yearulds speaking only their mother tongue.

The immediate area is said to be unsafe for pedestrians at night and teachers have been mugged on their way home. Every door and window of the M-year-old building, which houses the older children, is protected with metal shutters and the flat roof is girded with forbidding looking metal

Surveying the steel panels that guard the information technology equipment. Pamela Bailey, the acting head, says lightly: "We just accept it." The thos of the school is to turn the negative into the positive. Children who speak Urdu. Punjabi, Gujarati or another tongue at home have had those "pathways of learning" opened and may find it easier to learn a second or third language, reasons Ms Bailey.

She is as proud of the lowest-achieving as the highflyers. "Aren't they lovely?" she enthuses time and again with genuine pride. "Grove Birmingham's Grove School is in an area of high unemployment and crime, yet every pupil thrives. Moira Petty reports



Yasmin Bi, 10, whose unemployed parents can see her going to university, has been thrilled to discover the "olden-day world" in classic texts such as Treasure Island

gives each child the chance to show what they can do."

Pupils are encouraged to

direct the competitive instinct against themselves, each child working with their teachers to set their own targets. A minor improvement by a less capable child is greeted as ecstatically as a huge leap in understanding by a brighter pupil. A system of rewards, with badges, certificates, chocolate bars and spontaneous applause is in operation. Ms Bailey explains: "In the maths group, if a child has grasped something we've been working on, we'll stop and they can

describe it to us and the others children will often clap." High quality pastoral care is a priority. "We encourage the children to observe how the adults interact with each other. They're role models. Both children and staff work within a very positive culture. We have expectations. We respect

self-esteem about ourselves,"

The pupils are used to visitors, replying with confidence and enthusiasm to questions rather than seeing it as a welcome distraction. Those touring the school have included foreign education minis-ters, delegations from the Department for Education, on a quest to improve standards

and target-setting. and the BBC which has filmed the school for the cited in the White Paper Excellence in Schools. Pupils of differ-

ent social and rabackgrounds mix happily with each other and there is a spirit of genuine kindness. I watched as a three-year-old

boy emerged from the soft playroom, holding the door each other and we have high open for two even timier tots and ushering them before him. One of the high-flyers. 11year-old Sunny Mehta, spoke of the art competition in which the children nominate their winner. "It's not the best picture but the child who has tried hardest," he said sagely. Sunny and some of his friends from the accelerated maths group demonstrated their skills for me. They computed a series of algebraic

equations in their heads, num-

bers flashing through the air. When the figures became unwieldy, Ms Bailey orchestrated a group effort with each child holding part of the sum in their head before passing it on to the next. It was like a mathematical equivalent of

Ms Bailey describes the pace in the fast-track maths group as "frantic' with "a high level 'Grove gives of debate and intervention". each child inked posters on the wall,

the Harlem Globetrotters.

the chance teacher and pupils have listed their exto show pectations of each other. The pupils what they demands include: To challenge us.

can do'

work. To respect all pupils." The teacher's list includes: "Talk mathematically. Take risks in maths. Explain why we are doing things.

To display our

Asked why they were keen to take on the burden of eura homework and Saturday classes (which are open to pupils from other schools), the children came back with: "For challenge." Rajendra Patel, 11, whose father is an unemployed welder, observed: "The teacher might have run out of work for us in the other group." Rajendra regularly tackles his older brother's Alevel maths homework.

Darnell Gardenas, 10, said of the maths: "We find out patterns and how they relate to each other." She recently read A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens over a two-week period. Yasmin Bi. 10. whose unemployed parents "can see me going to university", has been thrilled to come across the "olden-day world" in her reading of classic texts such as

Treasure Island. Robail Afzal, 10, who speaks English with his four siblings and Urdu with his parents. can't wait for the next course in nuclear physics. It is extraordinary to hear these young children talking about period ic tables, neutrons and positrons with the ease other chidren discuss the plot of Neighbours. But Charlene Barrett. 10, was aghast at the suggestion that they were especially clever. "We're all clev-

For other non-streamed subjects, pupils return to their 30strong classes. There is no sense of shame if a fast-track student decides it is not for them. Julie Reid, a parentgovernor and classroom assistant, said of her eight-year-old daughter Amy: "She found the pace too fast in the accelerated maths group. The other pupils welcomed her back to the main group."

er at something," she said.

The visionary behind the success of Grove School is Dr David Winkley, who was head, on and off, for nearly 25 years until last summer. He is twice a year in English and director of the National Primaonce a term in maths. ry Centre, which he helped to The school deals in half found ten years ago, and

which seeks to identify the best

practice and sharpest teachers

in primary education. He is an

adviser to the Department for

Education and has drawn up a

blueprint for education in the

21st century. When he joined the school,

the previous head had suffered a heart attack after 18 months.

Dr Winkley's first task was

"keeping the kids in the class-

room". His approach is underpinned by "a moral ethos" in

which children "are encour-

aged to ask questions and to have confidence. We're not just

doing something to them. They are part of the process."

weekly philosophy class, in which the children analyse

moral issues and develop their

analytical skills. Dr Winkley

has a knack of picking cutting-

edge teachers: at least ten have

gone on to take up beadships

Ms Bailey is continuing the

tripartite approach pioneered by Dr Winkley. The emphasis is on the breadth of the

curriculum, the strength of

pastoral care and a stringent

monitoring system. The latter comprises a database on each

child, using a specially adapt-

ed software system, and could be adopted by other schools.

As well as continuous assess

ment, the children are tested

He continues to teach a

levels, to encourage the weakest, and children then draw up "contracts" with the school, setting individual targets. "We ask them to reflect on what they've achieved," says Ms

Monitoring begins on entry

after the child's 3rd birthday, and encompasses social and emotional development. Good communications with parents are important. A detailed grid of what each child is doing in

each subject is sent home.

"A whole range of techniques are used to teach reading so that the child can find the right strategy for themselves. in maths, present children with the big picture, I remember at school it wasn't always clear what we were doing and why.

Our curriculum has no limit but we provide the whole range of opportunities, not just in the core academic subjects,"

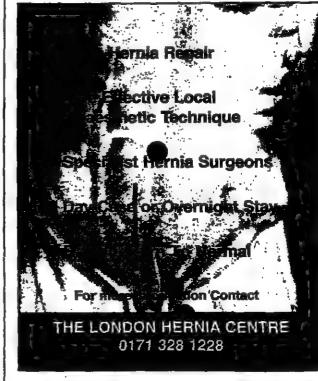
he school boasis a jazz dance teacher, a specialist music teacher and an arrist who incorporates air history into her practical class. A whole day may be given over to art to intensify the experience. On the day we visited, one class was absorbed in life studies before going on to make papier maché models.

At half-term the school opened for a reading week for the 10 and 11-year-olds of year six. "There were places for 30 but all 90 wanted to come. They focused on accelerating their reading and learning techniques that adults use. They had a lovely week," says

The Grove is certain that its techniques can be copied. Last week Ruth O Keeffe, the mother of a gifted child, was taken by Just One Chance to see the Grove with her daughter, Siobhan, 9, who attends St Paneras Primary School in Lewes, East Sussex. The school caters very well for her four-year-old twin sons, but there is no provision for highflyers, she says. The head of St Pancras, Angela Ferns. is planning to visit the Grove. too. "I'm keeping an open

mind," she says.
But Dr Winkley believes that schools like the Grove are the way forward. "I want to children moving faster," he says. "This is just the tip of the iceberg. Children can do so much more than we give them credit for. We haven't begun to tap their potential yet."

• Just One Chance is broadcast at 8pm, Thursdays, on BBC2. The Grove School Report will be



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Lowering pressure safely Dr Thomas Stuttaford begins a

HIGH blood pressure is only comparatively rarely signalled by a ruddy complexion, fierce temper, headaches and nosebleeds. Equally, treatment for high blood pressure is more complex than losing weight, avoiding extra salt, pickles and other salty

convenience foods. Stopping smoking and only drinking alcohol moderately help, but usually drug therapy will be needed. There are now seven major groups of drugs that can lower blood pressure to safe levels.

Half the people reading this article who are suffering from high blood pressure will be unaware that they have it. Blood pressure rises insidand its symptoms result from its complications after damage has been done. Overall, 12 per cent of men and 10 per cent of women have a raised blood pressure

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weekly look at new treatments

that is undiagnosed, but by the age of 55, this figure rises to 25 per cent.
Only half of the people in whom it is correctly diag-

nosed will be prescribed treat-ment and in only half of these will the treatment recommended control the condition. Regular medical checks and more assiduous treatment will reduce deaths, even in 70 to 80-year-olds, from strokes, heart attacks, heart failure and kidney disease. Finding the right treatment can be time-consuming, as half of all the patients treated need to try two or more different therapeutic regimes before an acceptable and effective prescription can be agreed.

For many years the standard initial treatment after

diagnosis of high blood pressure has been a combination of diureties (water pills) and may cause impotence, weaksess, cramps and fatigue. Some beta-blockers cause tiredness, and can seriously

exacerbate asthma and hav fever. Beta-blockers can reduce the amount of exercise someone can take and, in

excessive doses, lower the

heart rate to a point where the

patient feels dizzy and may collapse. Beta-blockers have an adverse effect on cholesterthe control of diabetes in insulin-dependent diabeties. They restrict the peripheral circulation and are blamed for cold feet, noses and hands,

IN THE 1980s, calcium channel blockers and ACE inhibitors were introduced, and both continue to have an important role. The ACE named because they block the angiotensinconverting enzyme, have fewer side-effects in general than beta-blockers but are often responsible for a persistent dry cough. More rarely, ACE inhibitors affect taste and smell, and more danger ously they occasionally cause severe angio-neurotic oc - severe swelling of the face,

Two or three years ago

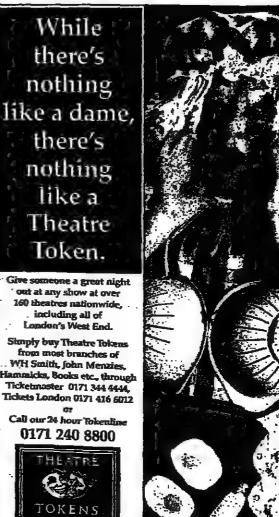
angiotensin 11 antagonists became available. They do not cause a dry cough, angioneurotic oedema, severe attacks of asthma, cold limbs or impotence. But they were not always as effective in reducing blood pressure. An updated version of the drug is now claimed to be more effective and even freer of side effects.

Bristol Myers-Squibb, in conjunction with Sanofi, has oduced a new angiotensin II drug. Aprovel irbesartan, which is said to offer effective blood pressure reduction. Tests so far have shown that it has no more side-effects than an inert placebo. Astra, the Swedish pharmaceutical firm, is also to introduce a different angiotensin 11 which will have a similar side-effect

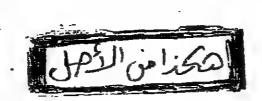
profile to Aprovel.

The other notable new drug is Physiotens Mozonidine, a throwback to the centrally acting hypotensive agents. Like its predecessors, it is highly effective, but does not cause the extreme tired-ness that blighted their use. It has the advantage of reducing the instance of left ventricular hypertrophy. heart failure and late-onset diabetes.

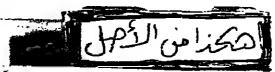
Now comparatively side-effect-free treatment is available, there is no excuse for regularly monisored and to take the prescribed treatment.







lips and mouth.







can be Ormous

phens, I get cross and say, no, Lady Stephens. It causes end-less confusion.

always_running up to the

him. One day, he was moved

to another ward, and when

Maggie and I went in to see

him the nurses became terri-

bly confused — nobody knew who was the wife, who was the

their husbands should have

n the last weeks of my

husband's life. Dame

Maggie Smith, his

third wife, and I were



Lady in distress the Earl and Countess Spencer on their wedding day

tress Patricia Quinn, became a lady after she married the late Robert Stephens, the distinguished Shakespearean actor, in January 1995, having been his partner for more than 20 years. She has followed the divorce hearing of Earl Spen-cer in South Africa with wry amusement — especially the suggestion by his girlfriend Josie Borain that Chantal Collopy, the Earl's former lover and tenacious supporter of his estranged wife, is bitter because she never got to w a tiara. For her part, Collopy is alleged to have said that Spencer would never accept her as an English lady because she was too "foreign". Can it be true? "Hell hath

no fury like a woman scorned," Borain says. "Chantal did not get what she wanted. I don't know her, but she sounds like a tricky woman, I think she wanted the title of countess. But lots of women want that tiara." And the title of Lady Spen-

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brun, this week revened to the Spencer name. Reports suggest that her staff card at Harrods refers to her as Raine, Countess Spencer.

Lady Stephens says: The subtext of the spat in South Africa over Earl Spencer's divorce is clear: these women not only interested in the glamour of having a title, but in estates, wealth and power. In short the fabulous trappings of nobility. I never chased titles; I only ever chased actors. .

cer, too; in a surprising move Raine, Countess de Cham-

"For me, becoming a lady made absolutely no material difference — I didn't get a bloody thing out of it. I still

As events have shown this week, English titles will always be sought after. Lady Stephens on the importance of being a lady as a lady is enormous fun. I can understand why 'Acid Raine' is keen to readopt the lady and I like being Pat Quinn. Yet if people ever introduce me as Mrs Ste-

> finds her current title too difficult to pronounce.
> "The most memorable thing about becoming a lady is that the Prince of Wales, with whom my husband worked on a record, found it so amusing. You see, at the time of the ceremony. I was doing Rocky Horror Show at the Duke of York theatre - dressing up in white stilettos and fishnet stockings, most inappropriate for a true lady.

Spencer name. I assume she

'After Robert was knighted, Prince Charles told him that it was all he could have wished for such a distinguished actor. Then he turned to me and bloody thing out of it. I still said: "What do you think about live in my tiny flat in Printrose Hill and earn my living as an actress."

"Still, introducing yourself so did my American fanclub,

the head of which introduced me at the annual Rocky Hor-ror Show Convention in Los Angeles, thus: 'I've got great news, Patricia has married an English lord.' So I said: 'No. a knight of the realm."

"At first, I could not adapt to how ordinary people treated me. The first thing I did when Robert was knighted was to put my new title on my cheque books and passport. It's amaz ing the effect it has; you always get the best tables in restaurant (although you still have to pay the bill, alas), and you can almost see people curtsey when they meet you. There is this palpable change in attitude, and their voices drop to a deferential hush. It's awful, really. They do grovel.

"Robert asked me to marry

him many times; but I never did because I liked the idea of being free to get out if things didn't work out. But as soon as didn't work out. But as soon as I knew that he was going to become a knight, I said to myself: 'Well, let's bring a parson to the bed right away | Stephens was convalescing after a liver transplant at the time of his knighthood in January 1995]. If that sounds cynical, all I can say is that I am. Our marriage was anam. Our marriage was announced twice in The Times before we finally took the

lems I have is that I never know how to introduce myself. To my actor frends I am glam Pat Quirn. They have great fun sniggeringly introducing me to each other as Lady Stephens. On Sunday night, I went to see Vanessa Redgrave in The Fever. There were all these actors there, people like Janet Suzman. When she saw me, Janet shouted out: 'Look, there's Pat Quinn." So you see people don't take it on board. But then perhaps, I don't myself: I was at a gathering recently and this woman came up to me and said: 'I'm Candida Lycett Green, who are you?" I paused theatrically, then said: 'I'm ... Pat.'

"On another occasion, I saw my friend Gareth Browne, one of the Guinness heirs, at the Chelsea Arts Club. I said 'Gareth, you know I'm a lady now.' He said: 'Oh, yes, Miss Quinn - we all know that." "So you see I like being a

ARTS

From Star Wars in Leavesden to star draws in Islington. Daniel Rosenthal meets Lan **McDiarmid** Pages 34-36

been knighted. It creates some bad feeling. As for those people who have no time for titles, I say Listen mate, when that sword comes down on your shoulder you love it.

"And then there is the question of what is politically correct. Let me explain. A friend of mine was knighted recently and his partner re-ceived nothing — because he's a man. But then how can he

expect to be a lady!
"I am troubled by the thought that I would lose my title if I ever remarried. But around using her title, and she seems to be having a grand time. If push came to shove and the choice was either to get married or keep my title, I would opt for the latter. I want

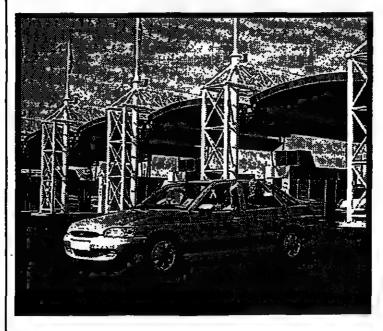
to remain a lady.
"It is the name through Dame, who was the lady and who was coming or going. It was terribly funny.
"In truth, I think my title
has led to some jealousy
among my friends. Many
people, I suspect, want to be which I carry the memory of my husband. I know I am Lady Stephens but I do miss

■ Lady Stephens was talking to Jason Cowley Ladies themselves; or feel that

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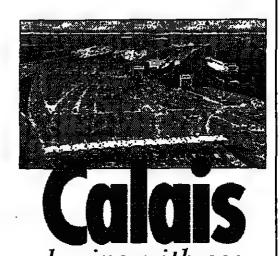
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Asian values and the price of consensus

Anatole Kaletsky on the crisis of authoritarian capitalism

reader care about the V V domino collapse of the Thai, Malaysian, Indonesian. Chinese, Korean and Japanese economies, stock markets and banks? If you have invested money in a typical British life assurance or pension fund, the answer is clear. The experts who manage your money were so impressed by Asia's "tiger" economies that they undertook one of the costliest gambles in

investment history. Until two months ago, the average British pension fund had more money invested in tiny Hong Kong (GDP \$154 billion) than in the United States (GDP \$7,600 billion). As Asian markets have collapsed, while Wall Street has risen to new records almost daily, this gamble has produced predictably unpleasant results; but let us assume that you have been wiser than the so-called experts and kept your money safely under your mattress, or better still invested in British or American shares. Should you still care about the financial mayhem in the Far East?

There are two reasons why the answer is yes. The first is obvious. If Japan, China and account for 20 per cent of

Having

invested

too much,

businessmen

ignored

output, fall into a 1930s-style depression, every country in the world will feel the impact in lost jobs and falling exports, though also in lower inflation and declining interest

Whether there depression now depends on Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister who has so far repeated all the mistakes of Herbert Hoover, Will he suddenly become a disciple of

Franklin Roosevelt and Maynard Keynes? If, as now seems increasingly likely, Mr Hashimoto decides to pour public money into Japan's banks, stockbrokers and insurance companies, the Keynesian stimulus will be enormous — and will justify, at least temporarily, the sharp recovery in stock

markets around the world in

the past few days.

From the macroeconomic point of view, the unprecedented scale of Japan's financial meltdown has a silver lining. The very fact that so many of Japan's financial institutions are now effectively bankrupt implies that any government rescue, once it begins, will take on stupendous proportions. Mr Hashimoto will doubtless stress the caution with which he plans to proceed, but the truth will be very different from the public pronouncements (as is usual in Japan). Tens of trillions of yen will inevitably be pumped into the economy in a matter of months; it will become impossible to deny any precarious bank unlimited government support, since this would trigger an instant collanse.

Once the genie of government refinancing is let out of the bottle, Japan's net public debt could double in a year or two. Japan could thus be on the brink of the greatest Keynesian demand stimulus of all time. As government borrowing soared, the Japanese economy would recover strongly. And a strengthening economy in Japan would more than make up for the continuing travails in the rest of Asia. In terms of GDP Japan is, after all, four times bigger than China and Korea

But events in the East have another, less immediate but more profound, implication for the West. Investment managers have not been the only Westerners taken in by "Asian values". Politicians, economists and management experts have been haranguing workers, businessmen and voters in America and Europe that their prosperity was to emulate the values supposedly responsible for the economic miracles of the Far East to work harder, to respect authority, to save more, to ignore short-term profits and to invest for the long term. Now it turns out that these were the very qualities respon-

From Korea and Japan to Indonesia and the Philippines, the bankruptcies and scandals

have several themes in common. First. industrialists and bankers invested far too much. They paid more attention to how much they were selling or producing than to now well or profit-

ing these things. the danger Having invested too much, busiwill in fact be an Asian nessmen and governments ignored the danger signals of declining short-term profits, preferring to stick to their long-term ambitions of national development or global dominance. When the vanity of these long-term ambitions sucked Asian countries towards financial disaster, respect for authority silenced any sceptics who might have questioned the national consensus. Rampant political corruption could also be largely attributed to the lack of transparency and accountability in

> To put it in a nutshell. authoritarian societies value consensus and hierarchical co-operation more highly than flexibility and individual freedom. The Asian model thus makes it easy to invest, to save and to stick to long-term objectives, but very hard to recognise mistakes and to change course when things start to go wrong.

mocracy, dissent and freedom

permitted, have never been

accepted as absolute rights.

in a fast-changing world rigid adherence to long-term objectives almost guarantees that huge mistakes will be made. It may not be true that free markets automatically produce free societies, as Ronald 'Reagan and Margaret Thatcher used to claim. What does seems increasingly clear is that when an ideologically closed, authoritarian society economy, something eventual-



Labour's women MPs seemed be at the heart of power when they were elected in May, but few have been prepared to challenge the Government

Blair's Babes in the wood

ight months ago this week, new Labour's publicists assembled their 101 women MPs on the steps of Church House with the new Prime Minister. The photocall showed rank upon rank of eager, smart young women, with the few older warriors -Margaret Beckett, Glenda Jackson, Clare Short - looking like grim, wise old wildebeest amid the doe-eyed Bambis at the waterhole. The sun

shone. The papers wrote headlines saying "Blair's babes". Some of us cringed a bit, haunted by the shades of other men grinning in crowds of eager young women: Benny Hill, Frankie Howerd, Eric Morley - well, you get my drift. But never mind: these young parliamentarians, some of them even pregnant. formed a visible phalanx at the heart of power. Individual women might prove as ambitious and cynical as the lowest form of male MP, but sometimes they would have to look at one another, at their youth and their motherhood and their overstretched lives, and remember what they are and who elected them. If Messrs

Blair and Brown ever got callous

about the particular hardships of

womanhood, we thought, they would

have the Babes to reckon with.

So far, this theory has not come mettle and willingness to argue student tuition fees, child prisons which by and large the back benches have falled. This week sees another test: £400 million a year removed from the social security budget by cutting payments to single parents. This, the Government says, will be compensated for by subsidised childcare in after-school clubs. Alistair Darling, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said at the weekend that it is more important to get people back to work than to pay them benefits. It is not insignificant that he — a man whose job is managing money - was pulled in to BBCI's On The Record to replace Harriet Harman, a woman whose job is the basic welfare of the poorest. As symbolic moments go, it was worrying. Even more worrying is the fact that yesterday Ms Harman echoed him almost word for word; and that of the 30-odd Labour signatories of an early day motion against the benefit

You get a sense of a safety mechanism disabled; a valuable check which for some reason - fear? uncertainty? dogged kamikaze loyalParliament is still neglecting women and

children — despite Labour's 101 female MPs ty? -- is not kicking in. The smoke-alarm is silent, the dogs are not barking in the night. No roar of sisterly support met Ann Cryer's defiant "Stand together on this, send a message to women that we're on their side." Do Labour backbenchers forget that out in the country there are people who rely on them? Who did not vote exclusively for the glitzy

leadership but for a genuine change in national priorities. For new thinking, not just new faces. You need not be a spendthrift Leftie to be worried. Only a fool would deny

that the welfare budget needs to be trimmed of fraud featherbedding. Welfare to Work is basically a sensible idea: anybody, male or female, who is fit to work should be

firmly urged to supweight. State benefits exist to prevent human disaster, not to provide an alternative lifestyle. It is a disgrace that so little intelligence has ever been applied to our creaking, grudging, wasteful benefits system that it creates poverty traps, provokes decent people into cheating and dis-courages attempts at self-betterment

through education. Welfare to Work is at least an attempt to confront a social evil head-on, and remind citizens that responsibilities go with rights, and that a boring mental job is a higher destiny than living on benefits. It would help if this was accompanied by a message (of the financial kind) to all employers that taking people on gets more points than laying them off in the interests of maximum profit. It should not be beyond the wit of government to devise a way of supertaxing profits made from avoidable downsizing. By high street banks, for a start. But evangelical excitement about

getting people into work has natural limits: biological ones. Women since our biology is ever with us should be better at grasping this than cut, only nine are female. men, and bravely take the responsi-bility of explaining to Treasury ministers that children come in different sizes, and that motherhood

progresses from being a full-time job to a part-time one. It never fails to enrage me that in arguing about support for "lone mothers", hardly anyone makes a distinction of age. Harriet Harman yesterday answered a question about mothers with preschool children by spouting the same parrot stuff about childcare and jobcounselling that would apply to a woman with a strapping great teen-

ager. This is ridiculous. Human infants are utterly depen-

dent on close adult care, love, and playful stimulation. Without these things it is impossible to absorb education, social values or emotional intelligence. Intelligent mothers who choose to leave their children and work a full day take immense care to en-

sure that the first

rears of their chil-

playful education with the best childminder, nanny or granny that finances and circumstances can provide. Those who leave their babies in less than superb care are generally miserable about it. They know that those five years lay the foundation for all the rest. They know that unless they can provide an excellent substitute parent (which can be done, just) they ought to stay around themselves in the home, neighbourhood and playgroup so that like the loving mother bear in old woodcuts, they can gently lick and nuzzle their babies into full humanity.

They know that if they do this vital job well, they are bestowing a massive favour also on the child's eventual school, schoolmates, and society at large. Ask any reception teacher about the difference between well-tended five-year-olds and neglected, farouche ones.

Yet policymakers fail to recognise that it is a job at all, let alone one deserving applause and support. All they care about is whether or not parents are "lone". If they are "lone" they must be made so poor that they are effectively chased out to work, leaving their infants in any old ramshackle care. Women are still

given to understand that government places absolutely no value on the praces absolutely no value on macreation of a baby's home unless that home happens to have a male earner in it. If your male earner has scarpered or died, tough. Off to work,

girl! Baby? What baby? Mothers of big schoolchildren are different kettle of fish entirely. After-school and holiday clubs are useful to them (although I bet most would prefer more flexible hours or a proportion of properly paid homeworking). But by and large, they can go some distance towards paying their way economically. The older the children get, the more reasonable it is to ask single parents to look for paid work (or do voluntary service, perhaps with other people's children). Life will still be grey for many, rushing home from duli jobs to supervise the homework alone. and they might well prefer to stay put and draw benefits. But society can't afford to give everyone the life they

would personally prefer. That isn't If no clear distinction of age is made, the argument gets silly. Those picture of idle, feckless women smoking and gossiping all day in wilful Those who want them increased show us pictures of mothers and toddlers. But parenthood is a continuum of gradually decreasing duties. I had hoped that the women in Parliament would ram home such

pig-obvious truths to their party and

make it understand that impoverished, neglected small children cost

the nation more in the long run.

hy not take the line: "All mothers - married or not - who take competent full-time care of small children will be carefully looked after. Progressively, as children get older, we will demand that they contribute to their own support." Instead we get bombast and circular arguments and clumsy Meccano attempts at social engineering and silent, uncomfortable women MPs not sure which way to look.

And next April, as the newest generation of deserted mothers contemplate the reality of a tenner less in their purse and reluctantly look for somewhere to keep their babies alive all day on the cheap, we shall proudly begin to lay the foundations of children who will make teachers' lives hell in 2003, and fill the child

Brown's £10 billion tax bonus

Labour is milking

business and savers.

says John Redwood

efore the election, Labour said Before the had no need to raise taxes beyond Conservative plans. With the single exception of the windfall tax to pay for its Welfare-to-Work programme, it was happy with the Conservative tax propos

These words were engraved on my memory as I read through the pre-Budget papers the Chancellor issued a few days ago. Last year at this juncture the Conservative Government announced its tax plans for 1997-98 (in the "Red Book"), and predicted that it would raise £282

billion in taxes. This was a cash figure, allowing for any price and wage changes likely to take place. Now the Chancellor has revealed (in the "Green Book") the actual amount to be raised - and instead of being the predicted figure, it is £10

billion more. This too is a cash figure for the same year. What, then, has happened in the intervening 12 months, apart from the general election? It is true that the economy is doing even better than the Conservatives thought it would, and there is a first instalment from the windfall tax. There must be, never-

theless, much else besides to explain a nax leap of £10 billion in a single year.
The trend towards higher revenues continues next year, when the projec-tions show an increase of £12.5 billion

in Government receipts, compared with the figures offered by the Conservatives last November. We are witnessing a big pro gramme of tax rises, new taxes and accelerated payments, in an effort to collect substantial new revenues in a hurry. The latest example of this comes in the Chancellor's proposals for corporation tax. The headlines are dominated by an eye-catching and reassuring I per cent decline in the rate. But the reality is four years of higher corporation tax payments. because companies are required to pay five years tax in four years. The corporate sector will, on average, be

more than £1.5 billion worse off every

vear for the rest of this Parliament.

There are a number of new taxes or charges to be levied. Charges for the use of the radio airwaves are being pushed up - and new auction fees imposed on mobile telephone companies - to raise up to £1.5 billion. A tax is being placed on nuclear and renewable energy. The Government is thinking about placing a tax on sand and gravel extraction, and is considering new or higher taxes on oil exploration and development. Road haulage and the motorist have already seen some increases in duty and licence fees, and await more. The biggest and most surprising

tax so far has been the decision to tax savings income in pension funds. It is taking time for the impact of this to make itself felt. It may be a year before someone with a personal pension plan is told they are required to pay more. Company funds are valued periodically and the bad news is often delayed. The Prime Minister told us that as shares were going up, it was fine for the Government to take money out of our pension savings. He has not now been back to Parliament to tell us that since so many people have lost money in stock markets around the world through their pension funds, that the Government has changed its mind and will not raid these savings further. The Charicellor repeatedly tells us

that we need to encourage more savings and more investment to generate long-term stability. He is correct in that. Why, then, does his policy tax savings more heavily, and take much-needed cash away from businesses when they need it for new investment? Announcing the abolition of Tessas and Peps months before telling us of their replacement has not helped saving either.

Parts of British business are now short of capacity. They need to retain the money paid to them by customers to spend on plant and equipment. Instead, they will have to pay more of it over to the Treasury, as the corporation tax, energy tax, telephone tax, pensions tax and many others fall to be paid. The utilities tax. too - the only one we were told about before the election - has to be found by business and results in less investment. Labour tried to ressure voters before the election that it would not be a tax-and-spend administration. With the exception of the windfall tax, bringing in £26 billion in each of the first two years, it gave the impression of no new taxes. So far it has proved to be not so

much a tax-and-spend administration as a tax-and-tax administration. Business and individuals will feel the effects in their bank accounts in the months ahead. Soon it will be the turn of the councils to join in, with substantial council tax rises. The Government, meanwhile, should answer the question: why is it doing this, and how does it expect people to save and invest when the taxman is after their money?

People will become disappointed as they see this administration breaking.

they see this administration breaking its promise to keep taxes down Starving councils of money so that they put up their taxes, while raiding business bank accounts, still leaves the voter paying the bill.

The author is Shadow Trade and

Fallen towers

A VANQUISHED Tory MP has sold his country house hotel after having a number of county court judgments served against him. Warren Hawksley ran a Welsh hotel with his wife Evelyn, despite wrestling with a number of unpaid bills dating back to 1989. The news follows the public airing of difficulties suffered by Michael Dobbs, the Tory shaker and author, who is flogging his West Country farmhouse. Hawksley, a right-wing Eurosceptic, has now settled his debts, but the parliamentary salary that he received as a former MP

ran out last weekend, and he has

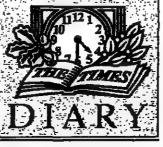
still not found a job. The Hawksleys bought Edderton Hall in Forden, near Welshpool, in 1988 after the former MP had earlier lost a Midlands seat the year before. Although derelict, the couple spent a packet turning it into an eight-bedroom hotel. Mrs Hawksley received plaudits for her fine cooking. But place for a reported £200,000. Last year Mrs Hawksley talked of their financial difficulties and blamed their troubles on starting the business "in a recession and in a gastronomic wasteland" — which did little to increase her husband's popularity last May. Hawksley offers a different explanation. "We are selling because my wife had a doctor has ordered her to take a break." I wish them a change of

● THE problem with being class-less. William Hague's accent in-trigues Baroness Thatcher. Is it smart London or Yorkshire? "Well, it is the Welsh in him, you know, the Welsh," she says, Perhaps Ffion has had more influence than we assumed.

Sick note

PITY Peter Kilfoyle, responsible for John Major's Citizen's Charter. He rushed to his local hospital's fered a footballing accident. A nurse made an initial check but father and son had to wait for four hours for diagnosis. Kilfoyle has sent a grumbling letter. I trust his complaint will be dealt with as thoughtfully as everybody else's.

■ A delegation from the PM's of-



types about life at the top. Sadly the party of government had found the simple act of booking a room too much to handle. The Institute of Printers refused to leave the uble-booked committee room. Britain's future leaders were left stubbing out fags in the corridor.

Where's Blair?

HAS Parliament become an irritant to Tony Blair? The PM's voting record has been poor. MPs report they have seen him enter the lobbies only once since he seized No 10. During the same period, William Hague, who admittedly has had rather less to do, has voted 37 times. John Major as PM voted 19 times in the first six months after 1992. Margaret Thatcher is a fairer

in the first half year of her second administration with a vast majority. No 10 says the whips are happy with the PM's voting record, of course. Tories believe there's a reason: "When Labour's policies go wrong, Blair can say he never vot-

 THAT animal-loving MP Michael Foster knows what it feels like to be hunted. In his previous existence as a manager at Jaguar, the man who may yet ban foothunting had to announce staff redundancies, including that of his own father. "Some of the workers decided to take it out on the messenger, he says. "For three days I had nails driven into my car tyres."





BUFFALO are the latest hazard for Eddie Grundy, above right. The Archers is to be ripped from congenial Ambridge and replanted in the wilds of Zambia. The African broadcasts will aid agricultural education — so instead of grum-bling about milk quotas over a pint of warm ale in The Bull, farm gate debate will focus on elephant droppings and how to prevent your husband drinking too much Mosi (a dangerous local concoction).

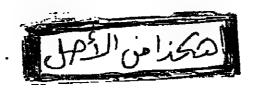
News that the English language programme is to be produced by he show's former producer Tim Coleman, and, alarmingly, is to be renamed The Zulus, worries fol-lowers. How could it be the same?" asks Glenys Kinnock, MEP, above. They have a different set of references over there. Brian Archer wouldn't go down



well anywhere but Britain. Neil would be very interested to hear about this. He's been a paid-up member of the Eddie Grundy fan club for many years and is abso-lutely mortified about the way he's been treated by the police."

• More bad news for Earl Spen-cer. Cut-price cable channel Live TV is expanding into current affairs with his profile. "It will be a hard-hitting documentary with no weather in Norwegian," promises Live supremo Kelvin MacKenzie, former Editor of The Sun, essential reading for the earl. "I haven't got much interest in a failed NBC reporter," ventures MacKenzie.
"I'm sure he will come out of this programme reeking of lavender."

JASPER GERARD



BLANDS AD ON TH



BROWNED OFF

A misdirected British tantrum over a Brussels talking-shop

The combination of wheedling, half-prom- Union. His undignified posture has sucises and threats deployed by Gordon Brown in Brussels yesterday was a wasteful use of aritain's political muscle in the European Union. His purpose was to secure for Britain a seat at the planned Euro-Council, an informal club to be set up next year for the france ministers of those countries which ion the first wave of EMU entrants.

Of all the EMU battles, this is the one that matters least. This club is supposed to be no more than a flexible forum for discussion, with no decision-making powers, and Germany, ever-mindful of protecting the independence of the future European central bank, wants to keep it that way. As a nonmember of EMU, Britain could spare itself long hours of tedium if it were absent from future debates there about how EMU members are to untangle the knots that constrict their policy choices in far from convergent national circumstances.

Mr Brown insists that, although this club is supposed to be no more than a ministerial speakeasy, a British presence is vital. Otherwise, the Government claims, the club of up to 11 "ins" could operate as a cabal. stitching up agreements that, although not final, would then be presented to Ecofin, the full council of EU finance ministers, as faits accomplis. So they may, but Britain would

served his energies for the task of insisting on strict observance of the EU treaty provision that the economic affairs of the Union are a matter for all member states and that nothing must therefore undermine the legal authority of Ecofin. So long as the Government is brave enough to stand its ground and use its veto where necessary, Britain's vital interests can be protected inside or outside the new euro-club. Anything to do with taxation and fiscal policy remains a

Instead, Mr Brown has made an embarrassing and counter-productive publie display of this Government's desperation. both to have and eat its cake in the European

ceeded mainly in enabling France and Germany to set aside their sharp disagreements about the role of the club and present a united front of indignation that Britain should presume to enjoy the "benefits and status" of EMU without courting any of its economic and political risks.

In response, Mr Brown has edged further and further from the balance he struck in the House of Commons. In the body-language he adopts when in Brussels, wait-and-see has become "just wait for me". By stressing how willing Britain is "in principle" to join. and that its partners should therefore regard it as a "pre-in" EMU country, not an "out", he gives at least the appearance of preempting the decision on whether or not to join, which the Government has promised to put to the entire country in a referendum.

The less fuss Britain makes about membership of this particular club, the easier it will be for Germany to resist French pressures to turn it into a powerful political counterweight to the European central bank. The more inclusive it is, the more Paris will argue that it should set the pace of discussion on matters such as tax, employment and exchange rate policy. The debate about this new club has, in fact, far less to do with economic decision-making than with political packaging. Its importance for France and Germany is that each wants to sell it to their electorates in different guise.

Mr Brown has made this affair a test of an equally political kind, a way of demonstrating that Labour has transformed Britain's standing in the EU and now plays as pivotal a role as Germany and France. Instead, he has revealed how much this Government has to learn about which European battles matter - and which it can win. It was a case for adapting Grouchio Marx's dictum about not wanting to join any chab that would admit him as a member. So long as Britain remains outside EMU, this informal debating shop need not concern it. To have said as much would have been a more mature and effective political approach.

Supreme Court's authority, nor compoun-

ded his foolishness by accusing the President and Chief Justice of collusion and

attempting to rush a Bill through Par-

liament to secure him against any conviction

for contempt. Mr Shah's own behaviour is

also less than sagacious. He represents one

functioned with dignity throughout the

country's tumultuous history. But prickli-

ness is the best guide in times of turmoil, the

more so as Mr Shah himself faces a mutiny

from other Supreme Court judges. They

question his appointment, and want the 15

justices to hear petitions for his removal. In

the confusion, the court has halted all

The result of this imbroglio is both farcical

and tragic. Mr Shah and Mr Sharif are each

trying to have each other removed from of-

fice. Rival mobs are taking to the streets. The

storming of the Supreme Court by Mr Shar-

if's supporters, with obvious police con-

nivance, brings politics to a new low. It can

only encourage opportunists and embittered

rival tribal factions to violent action under

the guise of defending democracy. Pakistan

is a country in urgent need of reform,

stability and clean government. Its economy

is floundering, population soaring, institu-

tions ragged and fabric decaying. On the

50th anniversary of independence, its lead-

ers looked back with gloomy realism at the

failed promises, the wasted opportunities.

There is a terrible sense of déjà vu; and an

acknowledgement by frustrated business-

men and community leaders that an army

take over might be the least worst option.

Yet again, democracy is failing Pakistan.

of the new endurin

sessions indefinitely.

Yours sincerely, 8 Regent Street.

Sir, Where was the Union of Demo-

Yours faithfully, SIMON PERKINS, Maple Tree Cottage, Chapel Lane, Akeley, Buckingham. simon_jb_perkins@compuserve.com

From Lord Rix

weekend workings of the House of Commons, with 562 MPs crowding into the division lobbies and droves of placard-carrying protesters milling

the possible cuts in benefits for single mothers, disabled people, the social services, university students, the homeless and other disadvantaged 2roups?

We all know the answer - every anthropomorphic instinct residing in every British breast had been aroused - and the pub sign The Fox & Hounds would soon be cast into the dustbin.

If all of the matters mentioned above (and others, too, of great import and immediacy to the public) were freed from the three-line whip and the threat of constant votes of confidence removed, wouldn't this force ministers and departments to be much more clear, cogent and clever in their arguments and allow MPs truly to represent the opinions of their con-

It could even be seen as a rough and ready form of PR, giving Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and his commission (report, later editions, December 1) food for thought over the festive

BRIAN RIX, House of Lords, December 1.

Party manners

What does he prescribe for the sufferer from sheer boredom from other guests at the same social occasions?

Chudleigh Knighton, Devon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Closure of mines 'short-sighted'

From Professor Ken Coates, MEP for Nottinghamshire North and Chesterfield (Party of European Socialists Group (Labour))

Sir, Yvette Cooper is right to argue for diverse energy options (article, "Don't kill off king coal", November 28: see

also report, December 1). Deep-mined coal is now mined at some twenty pits in Britain, five of them in my constituency. A neighbouring sixth colliery takes coal in the Newstead area. All are under threat because of the decline in coal burning in power stations. If there is no intervention, most of them will certainly close. This is a wholly unnecessary crisis because intervention could take many forms

The British coal industry is at the leading edge of technology. It has achieved considerable advances in clean-coal technology which could yield global environmental benefits. There has also been important progress in the derivation of liquid fuels from coal. There is a powerful case for exploring whether it may be worthwhile to rescue the industry for these purposes. The British Coal Corporation was working on this but, following privatisation, projects to test its possibilities have been abandoned.

The oil-from-coal issue could be fundamental to the future of the coal industry. The reducing oil supply and increasing demand for transport fuels mean that the cost of oil could rise sharply during the next two decades. At present, the EU imports over 80 per cent of its oil and is set to import an

increasing amount of gas.
It is short-sighted to close coal production capacity at a time when the favourable economics of coal conversion are about to increase demand for it. This process could reduce the EU's dependence on imported energy. Britain is the leading coal producer in the EU, and has the bulk of the workable reserves. It makes no sense at all to sacrifice what remains of the British deep-mine coal industry to the shortterm dictates of the energy market, rigged as it is at present.

Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. December 1.

From Mr Simon Perkins

cratic Mineworkers when the NUM was fighting for a "level playing field" against nuclear power in 1984-85? Appeals for help to the Labour Party. old or new, sound a little curious coming from the UDM.

Matters of conscience

Sir, Last Friday must surely go down as one of the busiest ever in the pre-

Was war about to be declared? Or were the masses rising in protest at

But is that the only answer? I suspect that the prospect of being able to speak their own minds and vote according to their own principles encouraged many an MP to be pres-

From Mr John R. Moore

JOHN R. MOORE, Hilldean,

Private medicine's role in performance of NHS

From Mr D. L. Crosby

Sir, Unfortunately, the NHS continues to suffer from party political civil war, in which statistics such as waiting lists are used as weapons.

A more detached view should encompass more important issues. such as how long people have been waiting and what for. To wait even days for cancer treatment must seem like eternity, whereas one might prefer to delay treatment for nonurgent conditions until a convenient

It may also be worth observing that the current NHS waiting list of 1.2 million is no more than a few months' work, based on current output. It is tempting to believe that improved efficiency and better management would go a long way towards solving the

What should be much more disturbing for the present Government is the statistic that between 20 and 30 per cent of those currently obtaining elective treatment such as hip replacements and coronary bypass surgery do so in the private sector.

All the evidence suggests that this proportion is growing; in which case, it will indeed be a pyrrhic victory, in say five years' time, to claim that total NHS waiting lists have been reduced. Access to healthcare will have been effectively privatised, and only those able to pay will receive it within reasonable time.

Political parties should declare a truce, at least until there is agreement as to whether or not this country should continue to have a National Health Service based on the founding principles declared in 1948.

Reminders should not be needed so close to its half centenary: but these principles comprised a comprehen-

sive health service available to all, free at the point of need, and funded out of general taxation.

D. L. CROSBÝ (Chairman, Cardiff Community Healthcare), Trenewydd, Fairwater Road, Llandaff, Cardiff,

From Mr Richard Temple

November 24.

Sir, There will be no shortening of hospital waiting lists until there is a complete separation of public and pri-vate healthcare at consultant/surgeon

So long as the consultants in charge of the NHS waiting lists are also treating privately those patients from the list who are not prepared to wait then there will simply be no incentive for consultants to reduce the length of their waiting lists. Quite the reverse,

Yours faithfully, R. C. TEMPLÉ, 3 Bramble Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent. November 28.

From Sir Rodney Sweetnam, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England

Sir, It is surely good news to hear that Mr Alan Milburn, the Minister for Health ("Getting the NHS off its sick-bed", November 26), supports the recreation of a genuinely "national" health service, and that more money required. Some may question, though, his belief that its present costeffectiveness is responsible for reducing the UK tax burden to below the

European average.

However efficient the system, those waiting to see an orthopaedic surgeon

in the hope of having a hip or knee replacement, were they to know a little more, might think of another explanation. In this country we have the lowest ratio of orthopaedic surgeons to population - a little more than half

the average — of any country within the EU, with the exception of Ireland. The same could be said of almost all surgical specialties. I would endorse more vigorous

assessment of clinical and cost-effective treatments, and this college is doing all it can to help. The problem. though, has very deep roots indeed, and the country will never be comfortable with its health service until Parliament addresses the fundamental problem of matching resources with the ever increasing and totally justified demand. This may be impossible with current methods of funding; if so,

Yours faithfully, RODNEY SWEETNAM, The Royal College of Surgeons of England, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2. November 26.

From Mr Mark Stockwell

Sir. Alan Müburn states that "the proportion of GDP spent on the health service has changed little over the last 20 years" - and this during a period in which GDP has increased signifi-

Funny, because I had always thought that the NHS had been "ravaged by Tory cuts".

Yours faithfully, MARK STOCKWELL 9 Elm Close, South Croydon, Surrey. November 27.

Legal aid for children

From Mr R. P. Towers

Sir, The letters you have published from Miss Jean Ritchie, QC (November 19), and from Mr Graeme Williams, QC (November 26), highlight two of the particular problems arising out of conditional-fee agreements in cases involving children and disabled litigants. However, as partner in a solicitors' practice which specialises in acting for children with injuries and illnesses, I regard the potential problems as far wider.

The rules of court dictate that a settlement for a child should be approved by the court and that any compensation be invested by the court on the child's behalf.

In such cases we do not ask the child for payment in respect of fees and accept whatever we can agree with the other side to ensure the child keeps the compensation. The Legal Aid Board is refunded any payments it has made during the case.

As things stand, a child is assessed on his or her income rather than the parents' income, since it is the child who is making a claim, and the action is run in the child's interest.

It is therefore impracticable to take a chunk of a child's compensation acting on a "no win, no fee" basis the scope for exploitation is all too obvious. However, that is what the Government is now proposing: legal aid for money claims to be abolished, and replaced by conditional-fee agree-

Most children's claims involve a few thousand pounds. However, the new legal aid proposals would threaten all such claims, and in inner-city Manchester a few thousand is a substantial sum — particularly for a child brought up on benefits, for instance with respiratory disease brought on by dilapidated housing.

The insurance premium for an asthma claim is currently £161. How many low-income families can afford it? The reality is that children, the poor, those living in poor housing, the most vulnerable will suffer.

R. P. TOWERS, Peasegoods (solicitors), Bank Chambers, 937-941 Rochdale Road, Blackley, Manchester. November 26.

Doubtful paternity

From Dr Patrick J. Lincoln

Sir. Caroline Bridgewood ("Mother's dilemma: whose son is he?", Weekend, November 22) quotes child support agencies as suggesting that in some countries the number of cases where the man presented as the father for testing proves not to be so could be as high as 15 per cent. This figure is consistent with my own experience from over 30 years of testing in cases involving doubtful paternity.

However, such a figure depends on two factors: the efficiency of the tests at detecting non-paternity (which should with modern methods reach at least 99.9 per cent) and, perhaps more importantly, the true number of instances of non-paternity among those selected for investigation.

The actual incidence of non-paternity among cases investigated by, for example, child support agencies is

though they are largely empty during

I have been forced, as a result, to

suspend visits to housebound patients

until the parking department can re-solve this absurd situation. My pro-

testations thus far have met with sym-

pathy but no action. The council is

satisfied it has discouraged commuter

parking in the borough to the general

benefit of residents, but seems to have

created a scheme with no flexibility to

business hours.

aid the housebound.

60a Brixton Road, SW9.

ivorlask@mcmail.com

IVOR LASK,

December I.

likely to be much higher than in the general population as, by definition, paternity of the child in all those cases is likely to be in question.

Therefore the figure of 15 per cent drawn from cases where paternity is in doubt - cannot be assumed to apply to the population as a whole. To use it may encourage a misunderstanding of what is meant by the "significant number of men" Ms Bridgewood refers to in the general population who are unknowingly raising children who are not their genetic offspring.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK J. LINCOLN (Honorary fellow and emeritus reader in haemogenetics), St Bartholomew's and The Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Department of Haematology,

Turner Street, El.

Parking solutions Disabled on stage

From Mrs Claire Mulholland

Sir, I was astonished to read ("A ripple Sir, "Far more attention needs to be of disapproval". Arts. November 28) given to the local needs of residents" (Mr R. Philips's letter, November 29). that Martin McDonagh's play. The As an optometrist, I purchased a busi-Cripple of Inishmaan, has been criticised for its alleged hostility to handiness parking permit for £255 from Lambeth Borough Council in July on capped people and for the fact that the the introduction of a new parking principal part was not given to a scheme, only to discover that there handicapped person. In my view, McDonagh is holding was virtually no provision for business users. I am not allowed to park in up to us, as in a mirror, attitudes residents' bays in the borough even

which undoubtedly exist. He is not condoning them, he is asking us to make our own judgment. He asks us to acknowledge the gifts and sensitivities of handicapped

people instead of ignoring or dismiss-Martin McDonagh's particular gift is to expose the cruelty and giftedness

below the surface of events and conversation, the tragedy lurking beneath the trivialities and to depict powerfully the insensitivity and goodness of ordinary people. Incidentally, I found the name of the handicapped players' group, the Tottering Bipeds Company, much

more offensive than anything in Mc-Donagh's play. Yours sincerely. CLAIRE MULHOLLAND. 43 Westbourne Gardens, Glasgow 12.

Royal Yacht

From Ms Adrienne May

Sir, You report (November 28) that the Princess Royal wishes the Britannia to be scuttled rather than be allowed to deteriorate.

However, the yacht is not some holy relic that cannot be allowed to fall into the hands of lesser mortals. It is the property of the British people and as such, with the rest of the superfluous family silver, should be sold off to the highest bidder.

Yours faithfully. ADRIENNE MAY, 2 Burton Close, North Walsham, Norfolk.

From Sir Peter Johnson

Sir, You report that already concluded that disposal of HMY Britannia by scrapping or sinking would cause "public outrage". There is no record that this ever occurred with the end of any of the other 45 Royal Yachts commissioned since

The Royal George, built in 1817 and in which at least three Sovereigns travelled, was even converted to a barтаск hulk in 1844 and eventually

broken up in 1905. The first Victoria and Albert was built on the urgent orders of the Prime Minister, Robert Peel, in five months flat at Pembroke. This Royal Yacht and two others of the same name were scrapped respectively in 1868, 1904 and 1954, the last after the commissioning of Britannia.

If the latter is scrapped, at least the proceeds could be a start towards a sail-training royal vessel or national flagship of whatever type may be considered suitable, after a few years of calm reflection.

Alternatively, the Government might like to decide that the time has come to make a public apology for the scrapping of all previous Royal

Yours etc. PETER JOHNSON (Author, Encyclopedia of Yachting, Dorling Kindersley, 1990), Lymington, Hampshire. November 30.

Where the aliens are

From Dr Mark Wilson

Sir, It is not often that my home state of Ohio is mentioned in The Times. but I'm afraid that your report (November 22) on Mathew Bevan (the hacker who plagued Nasa) made a geographical error.

Area 51, where "alien spacecraft are secretly held", is in Nevada. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio has a famous hangar where the little green aliens themselves are frozen. Aren't you paying attention during The X Files?

Sincerely yours. M. A. WILSON, The College of Wooster, mwilson@acs.wooster.edu November 23.

Opportunity knocks

From Dr Frank Newton

Sir, Today the locked door of the local jobcentre bore a notice informing the small queue that it was closed at lunchtime owing to shortage of staff. Yours faithfully, FRANK NEWTON,

39 Cattle End, Silverstone, Northamptonshire. November 28.

not thereby be reduced to impotence. The Chancellor would better have re-

matter for unanimous Ecofin decision.

ISLAMABAD ON THE BRINK When the military may be the least worst option Pakistan's stuttering democracy again looks Minister should not have challenged the

in peril, and yet again the country's elected leaders are to blame. The bitter quarrel between Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister, and Sajjad Ali Shah, the Chief Justice, has paralysed the country for more than two weeks. Rising tensions pit the executive against the judiciary, the President against me etime Minister and tribat grouping: ainst traditional rivals. The Army, which

has frequently intervened in the past 50 years, looks on with growing alarm and contempt. Senior officers have made clear that they have no wish to incur international obloquy and General Jehangir Karamat, the Chief of Staff, has urged a cooling-off period. Neither side has paid any attention. It would thus be little wonder if Islamabad soon falls

again under military rule. The fault for this latest and most serious constitutional crisis lies squarely with Mr Sharif. Rarely has a politician so squan-dered the goodwill that accompanied his election. His decisive defeat of the tainted Government of Benazir Bhutto gave him an unusual chance to cleanse public life in a country that has become one of the most corrupt on earth. His solid majority allowed him to open the first serious talks with India on the corrosive Kashmir question. Yet in

He has devoted his time and energy to trying to strip both the courts and the President of their powers to dismiss prime ministers. In doing so, he has alienated the other two pillars of Pakistan's Establishment.

It is his direct attack on the judiciary that

marks this crisis as more dangerous than

the many that have come before. The Prime

his nine months in office he has shown

himself obsessed with his predecessor's fate.

DONORS AND DOCTORS

Public lessons can be learnt from this private tragedy An inquiry may have been set up but that should not stop the questions. The three patients who have discovered that their corneal implants came from a donor infected with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease are entitled to ask why, when weeks passed between the donor's death and their own operation, it took months before it was discovered that the donor had CID. What

should have been a liberation from failing sight has become instead a sentence of fear. Before patients receive eye-tissue transplants a series of tests for bacterial or fungal infection, hepatitis and HIV are run and, if thought necessary, a post-mortem examination is performed on the donor. In this case, the eye bank where the tissue was stored was not informed that a post-mortem was to take place, or apprised of its results, until eight months after the transplants occurred. Although there is no evidence that this is anything other than an isolated lapse, it will inevitably provoke fears among the public that a National Health Service burdened with paperwork may make similar mistakes

As well as trying to locate where the weak

link is in this case, the Government is wise to

broaden the inquiry's brief. It should

consider stress-testing all methods of mon-

itoring the health of transplant tissue. It may

be, indeed probably is, a single human error

in other instances.

which has blighted the lives of three patients but the opportunity to overhaul commun-

ications between the hospitals of donors and those of patients should not be neglected. It is not only the way in which doctor speaks unto doctor but how doctors inform their patients that might, with profit, be reviewed. The Scottish Health Minister. Sam Galbraith, himself a surgeon as well as a transplant patient, stressed yesterday that the individual relationship between physician and patient inevitably governed how bad news was broken. It is, however, possible to question if it should have been left entirely up to each doctor in this case to

had received the suspect tissue. Creutzfeldt-Jakob has become a disease with a power to create panic, partly because it is an invisible killer, but also because the last government handled concern about BSE so badly. Although the strain of CJD with which the eye donor was infected is not believed to be linked to BSE, there are lessons to be learned from the bovine madness - full candour and a sense of proportion are the best antidotes to unnecessary hysteria. The Scottish Office has moved swiftly to establish an inquiry with a broad brief; it is to be hoped that openness now will reduce the risk of future recipients waking to find hopes of a new life dimmed.

decide how to deal with those patients who

Sir, Dr Stuttaford ("Fear of festivity". Body and Mind. November 27) gives prescriptions for overcoming social

Yours faithfully,

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Charles Marina, St Peter, His Royal Highness this eve-

ning departed Barbados

December I: The Princess Royal,

accompanied by Captain Timothy
Laurence RN, this morning visited
the British Partnership Scheme
funded housing project with
Association of Families without

Roofs (AFASINTE), Leticia,

Her Royal Highness afterwards

presented an ambulance boat, unded by the British Partnership

Scheme. to Leticia Hospital.
The Princess Royal later visited
Amacayacu National Park.
Her Royal Highness subsequently visited the village of San

The Princess Royal this after-noon visited the Margarita Nas-sau Primary School, Puerto

Her Royal Highness later de-parted Colombia for Peru. The Princess Royal this evening arrived in Lima and was received

by Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Republic of Peru (His Ex-cellency Mr John Illman).

December 1: Queen Elizabeth The

Queen Mother was represented by the Right Reverend Michael Mann

at the Service of Thanksgiving for

the Life of the Right Reverend

Robin Woods which was held in Worcester Cathedral today.

and Gruff Kids Award at Murrayfield Stadium Conference

(Deputy Lieutenant of the City of

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 1: The Duke of Glouces-

ter. President, British Consultant

December 1: The Duke of Kent, Patron, Classic FM, this morning

attended a presentation by the United Kingdom Digital Radio Forum at Academic House, Oval

KENSINGTON PALACE

CLARENCE HOUSE

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

London

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 1: The Queen, Patron, and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a Royal Variety Performance in aid of the Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund at the Victoria Palace The-

The Viscount Brookeborough (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening upon the Arrival of The President of the Federative Republic of Brazil and Senhora Cardoso and welcomed His Excellency and Senhora Cardoso on behalf of Her

Majesty.
The Queen was represented by
the Very Reverend Patrick Mitchell (Dean of Windsor) at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Right Reverend Robin Woods to former Dean of Windsor) which was held in Worcester Cathedral

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Lieutenant Colonel the Lord Charteris of Amisfield. The Prince of Wales was represented by the Right Reverend Peter

The Duke of York and Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy were represented by Commander Charlotte Manley RN.
The Prince Edward was repre-

sented by the Very Reverend John Treadgold. The Princess Royal was repre-

sented by Captain James Burnell-Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were repre-sented by the Lord Sandys. The Duke and Duchess of Kent

were represented by Lieutenant Commander Sir Richard Buckley **BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

December 1: The Duke of York this morning attended a Parade marking Independence Day in Bridgetown, Barbados, His Royal Highness later at-

tended a Reception at the Rar-bados Defence Force Officers' The Duke of York afterwards presented the Atlantic Rowing Race Challenge Trophy at Port

Royal engagements

Road, London NWI.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE

The Prince of Wales, Patron, London and Quadrant Housing Trust, will visit trust tenants and Duchy of Cornwall tenants in Kennington, London SEII, at 10.05. The Duchess of Kent will present the BT Childline awards for Services to Children, Lanesborough Hotel,

Premium Bonds

The £1 million prize in the Premium Bond draw for December was won with bond number 60DK 200378. The winner lives in the City of West-

Alan Harper

life of Alan Harper, immediate past Chairman of The Baltic Exchange, will be held on Friday.

from the Circuit

Memorial services

The Right Rev Robin Woods. KCMG, KCVO

Windsor, the Duke of Edinburgh by Lord Charteris of Amisfield, and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother by the Right Rev Michael Mann. KCVO, at a service of thanksgiving for the Right Rev Robin Woods, KCMG, KCVO, held yesterday in Worcester Cathe-

The Prince of Wales was represent of by the Right Rev Peter Nott. Bishop of Norwich, the Duke of York and Princess Alexandra by Commander Charlotte Manley, RN, Prince Edward by the Very Rev John Treadgold. Dean of Chichester, the Princess Royal by Captain James Burnell-Nugent, RN, Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester by Lord Sandys, and the Duke and Duchess of Kent by Lieutenant Com-mander Sir Richard Buckley, RN. The Dean of Worcester officiated, assisted by the Bishop of Worcester and the Rev the Hon Rachel Benson, daughter. The Right Rev Lord Runcie and the Right Rev Philip Goodrich led the prayers. Miss Catherine Benson, grand-daughter, and Mr Edward Woods, grandson, read the lessons. The Archbishop of Canterbury gave an

address. Among others present address. Among others present were:

Mrs Woods (widow), Mr and Mrs Robert Woods and Mr and Mrs Robert Woods loss and daughters:

Loward Woods loss and daughters:

Loward Woods loss and daughters:

Loward Woods loss and Dr Henrietta Burnell-Nogent (sons-in-law and daughters). Mr Charles Benson and Miss Harriet Benson. Mr George Woods, Mr Robin Woods, Miss Tamarisk Woods, Mr Toby Woods, Mr Toby Woods, Mr Toby Woods, Mr Honeletta Burnell-Nugent, Millem and Elizabeth Madachtan and Mille Henrietta Burnell-Nugent, Rupert and Tom Burnell-Nugent, Rupert and Tom Burnell-Nugent (grandchildren).

Professor Roser Hardisty

December I: The Princess Mar-Professor Roger Hardisty
A service of thanksgiving for the garet, Countess of Snowdon, Pa-tron, Youth Clubs Scotland, this A service of manksgiving for the life of Professor Roger Hardisty. Professor of Haematology at London's Institute of Child Health, 1969-87, was held yesterday at the Church of St George the Martyr, Queen Square, London, WCI. The Rev Nöel Walter, Senior Chaplain to the Gene Ocean Street Har afternoon presented the BP Youth Clubs Scotland Grizzly Challenge Centre. Edinburgh, and was re-ceived by Councillor Brian Fallon to the Great Ormand Street Hos-pital for Children NHS Trust, officiated. Professor Ilsley Ingram read from the work of John Donne. Professor Judith Chessells, direc-Bureau, this morning received Mr Clive Hardcastle (Chairman) and Mr Colin Adams (Director). tor of climical services at the hospital, paid tribute and Professor John Stuart gave an address. Professor John and Mrs Brenda Soothill, violin and piano, played Melodie by Gluck/Kreisler and Sonata Movement by J S Bach.
Among those present were:
Mrs Rardisty (widow), Mr Jan
Hardisty (son), Mrs Sandra Galton
(daughter), Mr Max Hardisty
(grandson), and many former
patients, briends, colleaguer and
representatives of the Great Ormond
Street Hospital for Children NHS
Trust and Institute of Child Health
and Legislamia Research Fund. Sonata Movement by J S Bach.

Scriveners' Company

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and Mr Alder-man and Sheriff and Mrs David Howard, was presented with the Scriveners' Company Quill Pen by the Master, Mr Donald Jackson, at the Mansion House yesterday. At a court luncheon held afterwards the Lord Mayor was also presented with donetions to his chosen charities, the British Diabetic Association and NCH Ac-



A carved tombstone dating from AD161 which Bulgarian police seized yesterday from treasure hunters who planned to sell it abroad. The stone, which shows the parents of the person who originally commissioned it, was unearthed near Sadanski, 100 miles south of Sofia. Smuggling of artefacts is widespread in Bulgaria.

Birthdays today

The Earl of Arundel and Surrey. 41: Sir Maurice Bathurst, QC, 84: Sir Frederic Bennett, former MP, 79: the Hon Nigel Calder, science writer, 66: Mrs Beryl Chitty, former diplomat, 80: Professor Sir Alan Cook, FRS, former Master, Selwyn College, Cambridge, 75; Sir Frank Cooper, civil servani and company chairman, 75; Sir David Davies, former chairman, Welsh Development Agency, 88; Mr David Green, director, VSO, 49; Mr Michael Green, chairman, Carlion Communications, 50: General Alexander Haig, former American Secretary of State, 73: Marshai of the RAF Sir Peter Harding, 64: Miss Patricia Hewitt. MP, 49; Sir George Labouchere. Gerhardus Mercator, cartog- Notre Dame, Paris, 1804.

former diplomat, 92; Dr Brian Lang, chief executive, British Library, 52: Mr Roy Moss, former vice-chairman, Allied Domecq, 68: Dame Winifred Prentice, former president, Royal College of Nurs-ing, 87: Miss Monica Seles, tennis player, 24; Mr Alex Smith, MEP,

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Georges Seurat, painter, creator of Pointillism, Paris, 1859; Sir John Barbirolli, conductor, London, 1899; Maria Callas, soprano, New York, 1923. DEATHS: Hernán Cortés, conterms of Mexico. Seville, 1547: himself Emperor of the Fin

rapher, Dulsberg, Germany, 1894; Marquis de Sade, writer and adventurer, Charenton Asylum, Paris, 1814; Adelaide, Queen Con-sort of King William IV, Bentley Priory, Stammore, Middlesex, 1849; Amelia Opie, novellst, Norwich, 1853; John Brown, militani Abolinionist, executed, Charles Town, Virginia, 1859; Giles Cooper, playwright, Surbiton, Surrey, 1966; Stephen Potter, humorist, London, 1969; Philip Larkin, poet, Hull, 1985; Aaron Copland, com-poser, Westchesier County, New

St Paul's Cathedral, rebuilt by Wren, was opened, 1697. Napoleon Bonaparte crowned

Dinners

Company of Stationers and Newspaper Makers The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs presented the Francis Mathew Stationers Company Scholarship to Miss Victoria Hall on behalf of the Educational Charity of the Company of

Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' at a civic dinner held last night at Stationers' Hall at Stationers' Hall.

Mir Alderman Clive Martin,
Master, proposed the civic toast.
Brigadier Simon Hill, Director of
Naval Recruiting, and Mr Vernon
Sullivan, Upper Warden, also

spoke.

Sir Nicholas Barrington was a speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Sir John Birch was in the chair.

Coningsby Club Mr Charles Moore, Editor of The Mr Charles Moore, Editor of The Daily Telegraph, was the guest of honour and speaker at a Christmas dinner given by the Committee of the Coningsby Club last night at the Naval and Military Club. Mr Martin Calderbank, chairman presided. chairman, presider

Cardiff Bosiness Club The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, the Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan. Captain N. Lloyd Edwards and the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Mrs Gill Bird, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff last night. The guest speaker was Air Chief Marshal Sir John Allison, Commander-in-Chief, Strike Com-mand, Commander Allied Alr Forces Northwestern Europe. Mr Brian K. Thomas, Chairman, Cardiff Business Club, presided.

Service dinners British American Forces

Dining Club

Lieutenant-General Edmund Burton, Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Systems), and Major-General William S. Hinton, Commander 3rd United States Air Force, were the joint chairmen at the 214th dinner of the British American Forces Dining Club held last night at Armoury House. General James L. Jamerson, USAF, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, US European Command, was the principal guests.

Cavalry Colonels

The armual dinner of the Cavalry Colonels was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club last night. The Chairman of the Cavalry Colonels. Lieutenant General Sir Richard Swinburn, presided. General Sir Roger Wheeler, and Sir Robert Fellowes were among the guests.

Mr Shimon Peres Mr Shimon Peres has received the International Council of Christians and Jews Interfaith Gold

Sir Stanley Rees

On November 30, 1997, Mr Robert Seabrook, QC, made a presenta-tion to Sir Stanley Ress on behalf of all past and present members of his old chambers at I Crown Office Row to mark their respect and affection for him on the occahis 90th birthday.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.L. Fines and Miss D.V. Gill

The engagement is announced between Alvin Edwin, son of Mr perweet Alvin Edwin, son of Mr and Mrs Aubrey Fisch, of Bracknell, and Diane Veronica, daughter of Mr and Mrs Terence Gill, also of Bracknell. The mar-riage will take place quarty on December 20. Mr T.J. Henson and Miss L.J. Jenning

and was L. Jeanings
The engagement is amounted between Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs William Hensen, of Torksey. Lincoln, and Lucy, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew-Jennings, of Tower Hill, Horsham,

Mr D.A. Owen and Mas H.E. Mouk The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Leonard Owen, of Fleet, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Terry Monk, of Camberies. Mr N. Sadler

and Milm J.L. Day The engagement is announced between Neil, only son of Mr and Mrs D. Sadler, of Woolten Hill, Newbury. Beristiare, and Jackie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs N. Dawkins, of Biggin Hill, Kent. Mr C.W. Simpson

The engagement is announced between Charles William, son of Mr and Mrs Hugo Simpson, of Beaconstield, Buckinghamshire, and Ruth Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Euan Gordon, of the Braids, Edinburgh

Marriage

Mr T.H. Hemiker Parker and Mrs C. Binns A service of blessing was held on Saturday, November 29, 1997, in Loseley Chapel, Loseley Park, Guildford, Surrey, after the marriage in Guildford between Mr Tim Henniker-Parker and Mrs Carmen Binns. A reception was held in the Tithe Barn on the Loseley Estate

SIR VIII

PARTIN A

Polar Medals

The Queen has approved the follow-ing awards for ourstanding achieve-ment and service to British Polar research:

Polar Medal
Antarctic to 1996: Michael Pracsi
Dinn. Polar guide and base
communider
Antarctic to 1997: Lestir Peter
Whitamore. Electrician and base
communider whitehouse Electrician and base commander
Arctic and Antarctic to 1942: Dongal Jonelyn Goodman, Glaciologist
Arctic and Antarctic to 1997: Crispin Many Jereny Day, Field guide, pary leader and logistics manager
Arctic to 1992: Mys Elizabeth Mapparet Ethelwyn Hartand, General assistam
Arctic to 1997: Simon Paul Price. eral amistam Arctic to 1997: Simon Faul Price. Geologist and deputy leader, East Greezgland project

Luncheon

Farmers' Company The Hon Sir Richard Butler, Masser of the Parmers' Company, presided at a livery luncheon held yesterday at Parmers Fletchers' Hall.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Nicholas Grainger, Director of of
the Shipbuilders' Association, was
the guest speaker at a meeting of the
Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

DEATHS

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

od will show your radiance to every land under heavin; from him you will recaive for ever the name, Righteous Peace, the Splendour of God- liness. Earuch 5; 3,4
BIRTHS

at The Portland Hospital, to Lucinda (see Working) and Stephen, a son, James Alexander.

DEAME - On Saturday 29th November 1997 at Queen Charlotte's, to Annabelle (née Stimpson) and Senn, a son, Myles William,

GOODMAN - On 24th November, to juliet (nés Finnigan) and Julien, a son, George Eupezt James.

JEMMER - On November 28th at The Furtland Hospital, to julie and Doug, a son, Max, always remembering his brother Louis with love.

LIBALA - On November 27th at The Portland Hospital, to Jeannine and Mick, a son, Martya Odja, a buyther for Cindy, Jason and Joshua.

USSELL - On November 27th at The Portland Hospital, to-jackie (née Donnelly) and Devid, a damphter, Charlotte Therèse, a sister for Alexander.

WILKINSON - On 25th November, to Juliet and Andrew, a son, Hall James Oliver, a brother for Alica

A service of thanksgiving for the

December 12, at 11.00am at the Church of St Katharine Cree, Leadenhall Street, London, EC3. Afterwards there will be refreshments at The Baltic Exchange, 38

Retirement

Judge Loyd, QC, retired yesterday

ARNOTT - Professor David Charles, died pescefully after a short libess, he will be missed with sadness by his family and friends.

Hyperal Satzides Cossocial Maurice Henry aged 90 years of Burnham Overy, Staithe, formerly of Chelmsford, Husband of Standard Maurice to Standard Maurice Henry aged 90 years of Burnham Maurice to Standard Maurice Henry aged 90 years of Burnham Overs, to standard Maurice to Standard Maurice Henry aged 90 years of Burnham Overs, to standard

for every land from him y for ever the	w your radiance id under heaven; you will receive name, Righteous plendour of God- ich 5 : 3,4
BIRTHS	

25th, to Kathe (nie Gooder) and Nigel, a son, Daniel

1997, to Alexandra (née Grounds) and Edward, a

be missed with sudness by his family and friends. Funeral Service at Westerinish Crematorism at 2 pm on Thursday December 4th. No flowers please, donations to the British Beart Roundation of H & C Matthews, Funeral Directors, 7 Burnham Road, Mainesbury, Wills. SN16 OBQ, tel: (01666) 822216.

ASHMORE - Peacefully in Campbell Rospital Portsoy Abendeanshire on Salunday November 29th 1997 Margaret (Peggy) Scott, 18 Cathay Terrace, Cullen. Widow of D. James Ashmore OBE previously of Falkland Islands Turks and Caicos and Fairford, Gloucestershire. Crumation private. Family flowers only but donations in He if desired to RNLI or RSPB. Irish Times please copy.

RARBETT - Kathleen Mands, peacefully at Pilgrim's Hospital, Candon Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 SJA on 28th November, 38ed 97. Malmesbury, Wilts. SN16
OBQ tet (01666) 822216.
ASHMORE - Peacefully in
Campbell Respital Portsoy
Aberdeenshive on Saturday
November 29th 1997
Margaret (Peggy) Scott, 18
Cathay Terrace, Cullen.
Widow of Dr. James Ashmore
OEE previously of Falkland
Islands Turks and Calcos
and Fairford,
Gloucestershire. Cremation
private Family flowers only
but donations in lieu if
desired to RNLI or RSPB.
Irish Times please copy.
RARRETT - Enthisem Maude,
peacefully at Pligrim's
Hospice, London Road,
Canterbury, Kent CT2 SJA on
28th November, aged 97.
Funeral Service on Friday
Sth December at 12:30 pm at
Canterbury Cathedrai. All
enquiries to C.W. Lyuns &
Son Ltd., 70 Military Road,
Canterbury, Kent CT1 IND
(Tck 01227 463508) Family
flowers only. Contributions
welcomed to Fligrim's
Hospice.
BEALHMORT - On November FALIDER - On November 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Christine and Martin, a doughter, Alexandra, a sister for Matthew.

HADDAD - On November 27th at The Portland Hospital, to Eoula and Roy, a son, Thomas Camden, a brother for Tarek.

welcomed to Pilgrim's Hospine.

BEAUMONT - On November 26th 1997 suddenly but peacefully, Vivin Hishabeth, aged 79 years. Wife of the late Tony and much loved mother of Simon, Andrew and the late Sara. Punezal Service at Woodbridge Comstery Chapel on Pricky December 5th at 12 noon. Flowers please to ER Sutton & Sons, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

BROWNE - Thomas of Hove on November 25th aged 91. Much loved by his family and safily missed by all his friends. McCALDIM - On November 25th, to Geva (née Le Marchant) and Michael, a daughter, Leonora Ka, a sister for Elvira.

BRUMWELL - On 28th November at Nailsworth, Glos, Charles aged 89 years, formanly of Bedford, Funezal Service at Cheltenham Crematorium in Monday 8th December at 1 pm. December at 1 pm.
BUIT - Frederick Samuel
peacefully at home on 25th
November 1997. Much loved
hunband and father. The
best of men. Fanszal Service
at Holy Trinity Church,
Northwood on Thunsday 4th
December at 2 pm. Fellowed
by cremation at Breakspear
Crematorium. Framity
flowers only. Donations if
desired to Michael Soball
House, c/o E. Spark Ltd., 104
Pinner Road, Northwood,
Middlesez HA6 1RS. SHEPHERD - Crew are delighted to amounts the arrival of Sarah Grace, on November 27th at The Portland Hospital. A sister for Tarbus.

GAMPBELL - Sir Colin Campbell MC 8th 8t of Aberuchill on 1st December. Hasband of Mary and Letter of James, John and the late James, Folm and the late James. Private funeral. Mamorial Service to be smounced.

St Mary Axe. All are welcome.

MOLLIES - Dr. Arthur Stungers
Hollins GRE peacefully at
Staplehurst Manor aged 94
years. Beloved father,
grandfather and greatgrandfather and greatgrandfather. Family
committee at All Saints,
Staplehurst on Monday
December 15th at 3 pm.
Domations to ENUS Support
Services Department, 224
Great Fortland Street,
London WIA 6AA.

December at 10 am.

DORIGIAS PERMANY - On 28th November Lady Jamet Hovember Lady Jamet Doughs Pennant of Pennhyn, Bangor, Gwynaedd. Much loved wife of John and Mother of Richard and Edinond. Funeral, Wednesday December 10th at Linudygai Parish Church at Linudygai Parish Church at 11:30 an. Fazish Church at 11:40 an. Fazish Church at 11:40 an. Fazish Church at 11:40 an. Fazish Street, Bangor, Gwynedd.

DESERY - Thomas Anthony on 21st November pencefully in his sleep at Monten College, his cheestle, aged 95. Pameral Service at Monten College Chapel on Thursday 4th December at 10 am.

Street, Bengor, Gwynedd.

GAIRIT - On 28th November 1997 peacefully at home with his family Roger Cecil Gaunt, Priest, aged 67 of Buckland Loved and loving bushand of Elisabeth, father of Jonathac, Eachel, Eatle, Ellist, Escalind and Felicia and grandfather of 10. Funeral on Thursday 4th December at 5t Michael's Chutch, Betchworth at 2 pm. Service of Thanksgiving to be announced later. Flowers or if desired donations for The Brighter Trust or 5t Endellion Festival Trust and suggiries please to Sharlock & Sons, Trellis House, Duning, Surrey, tek (01306) 88226d.

GORDON - Julia Marven (1985) Missey - Neal. On November 28th peacefully. Dear husband of Jackie and a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funezel, Monday, December 8th. Service at St Leonard's Church, Sunsiedem at 2 pm followed by private cremation, Family Rowers only. Donations if desired for RNLI to F.C. Hughes, funeral directors. 46 St Johns Road, Hedge End., Southsumpann SO30 4AG.

JARRETT-KURR - On November 28th Brigadier Alfred Jamest-Kerr C.B.E. R.E. Rend. aged 8d, dearly loved husband of Mems, beloved inther of See, Sin, Mick and the late John, devoted father-in-law, grandfather and great-pundtather, died poscetally in hospital after a short illness. Funeral Service at Ringwood Fariah Church on Thursday December 6th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Any domation to SASRA and the other charities with which he was closely involved to Barrow Bros., 2 Nutsery Road, Ringwood, Hants. 882266.

GCHOOM - Julia Mervyn (Judy)
28th November 1997
pencefully at home after a
cruel but bravely fought
illness Much loved widow of
Paddy, beloved mother to
Patrick and Angie and
grandmother to Tobin,
Susannah, Jasper, Marcus
and Harriet. Private
cremation. Pamily Dowers
only please. A Service of
Thanksgiving at Little
Malvern Priory at 11:30 mm
24th January 1998.
Donations to cancer
chedities of F.W. Spilsbury
01684-892777. Foad, Ringwood, Hants. BH24 1NG, Tel: 01425 472104.

AND CHESSAWAY - Suddenly on 24th November 1997, at 1997,

RAFTHMER - Walter Gestav, died pescefully at home on 29th November 1997. Dear husband of Catherine, father of John, Caristopher and Nicholas and stepdacker of Helen, James and Angus. Funezal at Winssiend Parish Church, Somerset at 12 noon, Saturday 6th December. No flowers pisase but donations to 5t Mary Magdalene Restoration Fund. Enquiries to (01643) 706123.

LANE FOX - Helen Victoria suddenly at home on 30th November. Ruch lowed wife of George, mother and grandmothet. Enquiries to Withers Solicitors on 0171 936 1000 ref SGC/MAS/DWB for details of the funeral arrangements.

LOW - Eathleen Elizabeth (Betty) died peacafully on 30th November aged 90. Buch loved mother of Alice, Lorna and George, grasdmother of Sampson, Alban, Joshua, Jacob, Bizabeth and Sagan, Funch, Itzabeth and Sagan, Funch, 1st Mary's Church, East Prestun, West Sanser, 12th December 1997, 2-30 pm. Denstions to British Legion.

MARECHAL - Joan aged 72 peacefully at home in Bowdon, Cheshire, beside her husband John on 29th November 1997 after a long disabiling illness. She is sorely missed by all her family, Funeral 12.45 pm on Sth December at St Many the Virgin, Bowdon. Family flowers only. Denations if desired for Farmardo's or NSFCC to Fancas Directors Ashton Brockes, Church Street, Altrinchum WA14 4DB. MARSDES - Nigel John Denton, 3rd Saronet, died suddenly 16th November aget 57. Loved and loving husband of Dinns-jean (née Dunn), devoted father of Lucinda, Rusie and Annabel. Pomezal held Theaday 25th November at All Saints Church, Thorgandy, Lincolnabire.

O'DONNELL - On November Z7th peacefully at home in Gordeston-on-Sea, Morfolk, Massrice, M.B., R.C., R.O., Massrice, M.B., R.C., R.O., Mill. Density beloved by his wife joan, his children Care, Margaret and Anne, his grandchildren Sophie, Banes, Georgia, joel and Matthew, his sister and his hnothers. Maurice will be received into St Peter's Catholic Church, Gorleston on Wednesday December 3rd at 4 pm. Requiem Massring December 4th at 10 am, followed by interness at threshall St Andrew's, Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Sancha Chapman Centre, ismes Paget Hospital clo Massrs Brundish & Son, 154 Nelson Road Central, Greet Yarmouth.

PARLI-Dr. Molly the widow of Dr. Churton Pauli died on November 27th aged 95 at St Angels's Couvent, Clifton, Bristol. Enquiries to R. Davies & Son, tel: 0117 9424039. ROCHFORD - Betty (née Dumcanson) on November 30th 1997 aged 85 years, peacefully at home with her family. Nuch loved wife of the late Iom Bochford, and mother of Thomas and Teresa, graindmother of Dominic, Gregory, Alice, Edward, Jolist, Rozanna, Cyres and the late Sensdict, and great-grandmother of Ryan. Funeral Service at Aldaburgh Parish Church, Suffolk on Fidny December 6th at 2 pas. Flowers may be sent to Tony Browns Funeral Service, New Cut, Sectionalism, Suffolk IP17 1DJ. Tel: 01728 603108.

WADDWGTON - Mark Richol-willoughly of Fembury Kent, loving inspand of Pan, has died with wit and confidence aged 59 on Sunday evening November 30th 1997. Femania to be in Kent on Tuesday 9th December 2 pm & Peter's Upper Church, Pembury. YFOSIAN - On November 29th 1997 Philip Metcalfe, beloved husband of Idonea, dear stuber of Charles, Penny and Andrew and such loved gamdisther. A short service will be held at Bath Abbeyon Thursday December 4th at 2.30 pm. Pamily flowers only please, with donations to the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund, Bath and all enquiries to C.S. Rowyer Ltd. Bradford-on-Aron, tel: 01225 863208. A Service of Thanksgiving for the indule. Thanksgiving for the middle of January 1998 will be

FUNERAL. ARRANGEMENTS

Suning, 7th December 1997, immediately after Morning Prayer at 11.15 o'clock, the sakes of the late Arthur Henry Mananapar Hillis C.M.G. of 2 Have Court, Temple, who died on the 16th September 1997, will be placed at his expressive of the Temple Church beside these of his late wife, Mary Hillis. A reception will be held in the Temple afterwards for family and friends attending. Please Inform the Clark to Barcourt Chambers on 0.171 353 inform the Clark to Rercourt Chambers on 0171 353 6961 of your attendance

MEMORIAL SERVICES BUTLER - Rosemary Lidge Woodgata. A Memorial Service will be held at Chelsea Old Church on Tuesday 9th December 1997 at noon, Followed by a celebration in the Church

PSPLOS - Clotide. A Requiem Mass will be held at Westminster Cathedral, All Souls Chapel, on Friday December 5th at 11.15 and Her friends are welcome.

IN MEMORIAM -

LAW - Christine Mand (née Wetherell) December 2nd 1950 - October 31st 1976. In loving mamory.

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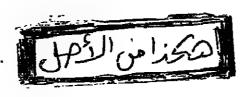
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OBITUARIES

Stephane Grappelli, jazz musician. died yesterday aged 89. He was born on January 26, 1908,

The rhythms of jazz. classical and popular music all found unique expression in the work of Stephane Grapnelli. Although his most signifcant recordings were made in the 1930s, during his famous collaboration with Django Reinhardt in the Quintette du Hot Club de France, Grappelli reached a new level of popularin in the 1900s, notably in duets with Yehudi Menuhin, In his long career, he played with most of the greatest names in juzz: Duke Ellington, Fats Waller, Glenn Miller, escar Peterson and Miles

Davis. Grappelli was still fulfilling a gruelling schedule when he jurned 80, touring for up to nine months of the year. Regular television performances ensured that he remained a favourite with audiences who otherwise had little interest in jazz. In his hundreds of renditions of Honeysuckle Rose or Fascinatin' Rhythm, he invariably found ways of inject-

ing new life. Born in Paris, Grappelli was brought up by his father. an Italian immigrant who bought him a violin from a cobbler's shop. He was largely self-taught as a violinist and

pianist, and was obliged to earn his own living from an early age. He took a job as a cinema musician at the age of 14, and also made money by busking around the city. By about 1927 he was involved in the local jazz network, and he soon became a member - initially as a pianist - of the Gregorians, a big band which took its inspiration from the Jack Hylton Orchestra. The most important event in

Grappelli's career, his meeting with the gypsy guitarist Django Reinhardt, began a remarkable partnership, though exactly how it happened is uncertain. The best known account says that the pair began an impromptu improvisation in a dressing room during breaks in their performances at the Hotel Claridge, and were joined by the double-bass player Louis Vola.

Under the patronage of the Hot Club de France, they formed a quintet with Reinhardt's brother, Joseph, and a third guitarist. Roger Chaput. From their first performance in 1934, they were acclaimed, and the unusual instrumentation created a new form of subtle but fiery jazz. Reinhardt's solos aroused much comment, but it was Grappelli's solidity and attention to detail that kept the group intact. When, in later years, a reporter asked him whether it was true that Reinhardt was a difficult colSTEPHANE GRAPPELLI



league, Grappelli replied: "No, he was not difficult, he

was impossible." Their steady flow of recordings included Minor Swing and Them There Eyes. The quintet was among the first to challenge the world dominance of American jazz musicians. Just as startling was

Grappelli's collaboration with Reinhardt and the American violinist Eddie South on Bach's D-minor Concerto for Two Violins. The record was to enjoy the distinction of being banned as "degenerate" during the Nazi occupation.

By that time Grappelli had settled in England, having de-

cided to stay in London at the outbreak of war. Together with the pianist George Shearing, he worked steadily on the club circuit. At the end of hostilities, he was reunited with Reinhardt. Plaving together again, their swingladen Murseillaise attracted disapproval - this time from

followers of de Gaulle. The partnership continued off and on for the next seven years, but with Reinhardt now showing less commitment, the duo rarely reached the heights of their prewar work. When the guitarist died in 1953, aged 43. Grappelli settled for a relatively quiet life of Parisian

residencies. Though his reputation among fellow musicians remained high, his public profile gradually declined. In the mid-1960s, a revival of

interest in the jazz violin enabled him to edge back towards the limelight. The album Jazz Summii - recorded in 1900 with "Stuff" Smith. Svend Asmussen and the fashionable young French virtuoso Jean-Luc Ponry -- helped the process along. In 1969 Grappelli made his first visit to the US, where he performed at the Newport Jazz Festival, He also cut Paris Encounter with the American vibes, player Gary Burton, and linking up again with Ponty he recorded the jazz-rock album Jean-Luc Ponty/Stephane Grappelli in

Just as important, from the point of view of British audiences, was the association with the guitarist Diz Disley, who arranged a series of tours in the early 1970s. Though jazz promoters showed less interest than folk clubs. Grappelli rekindled the Hot Club string format and reached a new. youthful audience. Another album. The Reunion (1970). found him back in the company of George Shearing.

He was also embarking on a series of duets with Yehudi Menuhin, whom he had met in 1971 on Michael Parkinson's BBC char show. While the duets they recorded over the

years may have been too slick and commercial to satisfy every jazz lover, they ensured Grappelli's popularity with middle-of-ine-road listeners

Appropriately enough, Menuhin was on hand at the Barbican Centre in London in 1988 in a special concert to mark his friend's 80th birthday. By this time Grappelli had pur together a first-rate band, which included the guitorists Marc fosset and Martin Taylor Seemingly always on the road, the violinist could be found in the most unlikely and far-flung venues. While his solos were gradually pared down with the passing years, the youth and vitality of his sidemen frequently seemed to grant him a new lease of life. Helpful to younger violinists. he provided advice and encouragement to his compartion Didler Lockwood and to the British virtuoso Nigel Rennedy.

Though fruit - with a pacemaker fined in 1991 - and latterly confined to a wheelchair. Grappelli continued to perform live almost to the end of his life. An album, Live at the Blue Note, was recorded in 1995, and he showed he could still contribute some graceful guest soles on Years Apart, on album recorded last year by the Scottish guitarist Martin Taylor's group Spirit of Django,

He was unmarried.

SIR ALEC OGILVIE

Sir Alec Ogilvic, former chairman of Powell Duffryn, died on November 13 aged 84. He was born on May 17, 1913.

AFTER a thousand days in Japanese captivity during the war. Alec Oglivie weighed less than he had on his 9th buthday. But he survived, and reached the top of the business world in India, before retiring to this country some 30 years ago and doing it all over again. Appointed chairman of Powell Duffryn for two years. he successfully steered the industrial giant throughout the turbulent 1970s.

Born of Goring-on-Thames. Alec Drummond Ogilvie spent his childhood in Bengal. His father Sir George Ogilvie. a senior official in the Indian political service, was the sixthceneration of the family to have worked in the subcentinent.

Alec was educated in Britain at Cheltenham College, where he played rughy, hockey and cricket for the school. He was



so big for his age that during boxing matches at his prep school, masters put two boys against him in the ring at the same time.

He worked in the City for a few years before returning to India in 1935 to join Andrew Yule, one of the great management agencies in Calcutta. India was a different place in those days. A maharajah once invited him to spend Christmas at his palace and duly arranged for his own coach to attach to the express train

taking young Ogilvie from Calcutta to Rajputan. He alighted at a station early on in the journey, in order to stretch his legs, intending to jump back on when the express was ready to leave again. Time passed, however. with no sign of its imminent departure, so he asked the guard what was happening. We are waiting for you. Sahib," beamed the guard. At the outbreak of the Second World War he joined the 2nd Battalion of the Gur-

kha Rifles, only to be captured by the Japanese at the fall of Singapore in February 1942. There followed three-and-ahalf years as a prisoner-of-war in the notorious Changi jail. He counted himself fortunate being posted to run a section on the Japanese garden scheme, providing vegetables for the hospitals and prison camps. This also enabled him to keep in contact with his Gurkhas, interned in a separate camo three miles away.

After the war. Ogilvie re-

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turned to: Andrew Yule where he rose to be managing director in 1956 and chairman six years later. During 1964-65 he was also elected president of both the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Associated Chambers of all India, for which he was knighted in 1965.

He then came back from India and joined Powell Duffryn as deputy chairman. A rather private, introspective man, known for his integrity and sense of duty. Oglivie became in 1967 an active member of the council of the King Edward VII Hos-pital for Officers, where his father had been house governor and his sister Vere Lady Birdwood the administrator.

In 1945 he married his wife Lesley ("Lel") whom he had first met while at school. They had been unofficially engaged in 1939, but their wedding plans had been disrupted by the war, and neither knew for three years whether the other was still alive. She survives him, along with two sons.

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KATHY ACKER

Kathy Acker, author and performance artist, died on November 29. She is thought to have been born in 1944 or 1948.

KATHY ACKER was a fiction writer, a show artist, a punk performer, art scene personality, teacher and guru, She was an American who hated and admired the United States in equal measure. A New Yorker who had a love affair with Landon. A Post-Modern iconoclast who enjoyed the opera and believed in the discipline of the Classics.

Acker (us she preferred to be known) welcomed the tensions in herself rather as warring members of the same family, a number of whom are not on speaking terms but all of whom must be seated round the dinner table. She never sought a homogenised, smoothed-out narrative of life and work; instead, she took the fragments as she found them and tried to understand their value.

In Britain she had fame and notoriety heaped upon her in 1984 when Picador published Blood and Guts in High School. Melvyn Bragg had her on the South Bank Show. Robert Mapplethorpe took her photograph. Acker moved from New York to London and for the next five years was undisputed queen of the scene. In the decade before this Acker had been an essential part of the New York avantgarde. She was William

Burroughs's baby, a sharp. sexy reporter among the trash cans and strip joints, tapping out dispatches from the underground. Her first novel. The Childlike Life of the Black Tarantula: Some Lives of Murderesses (1975) was the typical Acker product. Like all her work since, it refused plot. suffused itself in sexual imagery and set out to expose language as vet another kind of unreality. Whatever its merits, the vigour is unmistakable and so is the voice. It was another of Acker's contradictions that, while denying language its authenticity, she

created an authentic voice. She was born and raised in New York of German-Jewish parents. She never met her natural father, who left her mother while she was pregnant. She was brought up by her mother and stepfather, in some style, living at an exclusive Sutton Place address and having income from a tiny

trust fund to fall back on. Her earliest memories were of her autocratic grandmother taking her systematically around the museums and insisting on Kultur, while at home her parents hid their pornography in the drinks cabinet.

At 18 she escaped this oppressive gentility and started to earn her own money as a stripper and live sex show girl. She married a close friend. Robert Acker, whose name she made her own, refusing any other, even on official documents, a practice she continued after their divorce and her remarriage briefly to the American composer Peter Gordon. Naming was important to her; her fiction, her characters, herself. She felt it was one of the few legitimate ways of controlling experience. A few years ago, when breast cancer had been diagnosed, she began an obsessive naming of the parts, quantify-

ing and tagging the cells.

systems, tissues and cavities of her body in an effort to understand it. She said: "I will make myself well or at least I will die in control of my own

Control of the body, usually through sex, is the central trope of all Acker's work. though something she was rethinking in the year before she died. She was becoming tired of her "wild girl" image and regretted that newspaper editors in Britain wanted only to commission her to write about the Spice Girls or nipple-piercing. She was probably 50, or 48, or 53 - she changed her mind about this a lot. In the United States she was an icon, an institution. In Britain and in Europe, although mainstream, she had been unable to get past her opening image of 1984.

In truth, she still courted that image, making records with the Mekons, a punk band, and sporting her tat-

tows, her hody-rings, her gold tooth and her leathers. She always looked fabulous, even a few weeks before she died. and the youthful zest of her person was a living rebuke to early-nighters and vitamin swallowers everywhere.

During her wint as a teacher at the San Francisco Art. Institute there was a waitinglist for her classes, even though she was strict about time and discipline, insisting on reading, thinking and talking as high cultural activities. This was not the laid-back Californian approach, but one of the most endearing of Acker's contradictions was that with her glasses on she was straight out of The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie.

When she became ill again this year, she knew she would die. She suspected, 100, that her work was done. She had made all the effort she could towards "a society that wasn't just disgust".

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THE ATTACK ON THE PIRATES OF BORNEO.

The following is an extract from a private letter received from one of the officers engaged in the late affrays with the pirates. &c. of Borneo, and contains a more graphic account of the affair than has yet been published. The fleet, under the command of Sir

Thomas Cochrane, comprising the Agincoun. 72. Vestal, 26. Doedalus, 20. Wolvering, 16, the Vixen steam-sloop, and the Hon. Company's steamers the Nemesis and Pluto, started for Borneo from Singapore, in July last, touching at Serawak, and thence sailed for Borneo. where the Sultan, who nominally possesses the country, lives. This place being situated up a river, the ships could not get up on account of their great draught of water, consequently the only vessels that could go up were the three steamers Vixen. Nemesis, and Pluto. with the Admiral and all the captains, and about 200 marines on board. The marines were sent as a guard of honour, but, in the end, proved rather valuable coadjutors. They were received very civilly by the Sultan, who appeared delighted to see them; not so, however, a brother of his, and who is a sort of pretender to the throne. He sent a message to the Sultan, "that if he (the Sultan) did not send

ON THIS DAY

December 2, 1845 类型条础的

Any engagement led by Thomas Cochrane 10th Earl of Dundsmald (1775-1800), was never less than a success. This remarkable man was, as a captain unjustly expelled from the Novy in 1814. Thereafter he commanded successively the names

of Chile Brazil and Greece, before heme

reinstated in the Navy in 1832 the foreigners away he should most certainly come down, take the vessels, and cut all their (the English) throats "This threat much alarmed the Sultan, who immediately went to the Admiral (Sir T. Cachrane) to request he would depart if he had any regard for hes life. The Admiral, however, not being a man to be frightened at trifles, laughed at him much to the perfect astonishment of the Sultan, who concluded instanter that the English were all mad. The Admiral then sent a message to the Sultan's brother, to say that his object in coming there was peace and not war, but that he was quite as well prepared for the one as

to keep a civil tongue in his head. This he would not listen to, but the next morning he came down, with a number of men, to the two forts, near the position of the three steamers, and opened fire upon them, which we (the English) lost no time in returning, and in almost as short a time as I am telling you the forts were demolished by shells, the marines landed, and the man that would light, with the miserable rabble that composed his army, ran off to the hills as fast as his legs would carry them. The 2uns (brass, and very valuable) were all taken and given to the Sulian, ingether with everything of value that could be found, and then his (the Sultan's) rival's place was set on fire and burnt to the ground. The Sultan appeared much pleased at this, and concluded upon the spot a treaty of alliance, &c., with the English, Our loss was only one man killed and two or three wounded, that of the enemy is supposed to have been very great. Two prisoners, who had made their escape, were found here, and, from their information, the Admiral decided upon proceeding with the squadron to the place pointed out by them, at the north end of the island (Borney), to externituate the pirates, and teach them a lesson as to English ounishment for piracy . .

the other, and advised him, at the same time.

Board privilege not absolute

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Sir Brian Neill

Pudgment November 27 Confidential communications to the Parole Board were not protected from disclosure by absolut privilege, since its proceedings were not part of the proceedings of

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiff. David Anthony Daniels, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Tucker on against the order of Deputy Dis-trict Judge Williams on February 15, 1995 striking out his claim for damages for defamation against Lynne Griffiths, the defendant Paragraph I of Schedule 5 to the

I Justice Act [99] provides The [Parole] Board shall not be regarded as the servant or agent of the Crown or as enjoying any status, immunity or privilege of the Crown and the Board's property shall not be regarded as property of, or held on behalf of, the

Miss Cherie Booth. QC and Mr Wayne Beard for the plaintiff; Mr Christopher Vosper for the

SIR BRIAN NEILL said the plaintiff was serving a life sentence imposed in 1983 for rape. In 1994

Scottish Power ple v Britoil

(Exploration) Ltd and Others

Before Lord Justice Staughton.

The factual matrix to which a court

was to have regard in construing a

context of the contract. Consid-

eration of the surrounding circum-stances should be confined to the

facts which both parties would

have had in mind and known that

the other had in mind when the

A wide definition of surrounding

circumstances tended to add to the

cost of litigation but contribute

little to the understanding of the

The Court of Appeal so stated

allowing the appeal of the plaintiff buyer. Scottish Power plc. from a

decision of Mr Justice Colman of

May 14, 1997 on the extent of the

sellers' rights to sell gas to other

customers under five contracts for the sale of natural gas made

between Scottish Power pic and five defendant sellers, Britoil

(Exploration) Ltd. Lasmo (TNS)

Ltd. MOC Exploration (UK) Ltd. Clyde Petroleum (Andrew) Ltd and

Justice Robert Walker

contract was made.

Undgment November 18j

telling police there had never been any form of relationship between them and that she was concerned for her safety should he be released because he was fixated with her.

Mr Justice Tucker had upheld the striking out of that claim on the hasis that it had been mitiated for a collateral purpose, namely to per-suade the Parole Board that it had been wrong, that it was intended to harass and embarrass and that it

was nopeless.

However, the plaintiff had been unwavering in his claim that he had a personal relationship with the defendant. His case was that at one time she had had strong feelings for him which she now cought to deny. The authorities had treated him

as having made up a completely fictious account of the relation-ship between them, and without establishing the true position, he had no prospect of correcting that misconception and therefore no prospect of parole. Although his case faced for-midable difficulties, the defendant

had not demonstrated it was bound to fail. Nor would it be right, in his Lordship's view, to reject as unfounded the plaintiff's assertion that he had brought to action to clear his name. The writ had been issued several months before the

A declaration was granted in terms sought by Scottish Power plc, but an injunction to restrain the sellers from selling gas to other

customers was refused.

Mr Richard Wilmor Smith, QC,

Mr Stephen Males and Mr Sean Wilkin for Scottish Power, Mr Anthony Grabiner, QC and Mr

STAUGHTON said that it was

established law that contracts were

not construed in a vacuum. The

court was entitled to know the

surrounding circumstances which prevailed when the contract was

Subjective evidence of intention

by either party was not admissible.

The court was looking for the common intention of the parties.

Both parties were entitled to know,

or to have the means of knowing, what the contract meant at the

Evidence of negotiations was not admissible. Until a contract was

made, negotiations represented

what one party or the other hoped

What was comprised by the

surrounding circumstances or the factual matrix? There was little

t what the contract

moment it was made.

actually meant.

JUSTICE

David Toledano for the sellers.

LORD

application in June 1994.

proceedings to communications to the Parole Board would be rejection by the Parole Board of his

formation supplied by her to the

Parole Board for the purpose of its

deliberations should be entitled to

immunity on the ground of public

At first sight there was some

attraction in the proposition that confidential communications to

the Parole Board should be pro-

tected by absolute privilege. How-ever, his Lordship had come to the

firm conclusion that to extend the immunity attached to court

in New Hampshire Insurance Co v

MGN Ltd (No I) (The Times July

25, 1995) and a later appeal in the

same case on Sentember 6, 1996.

echoing his earlier comments in Youell v Bland Welch and Co

mind, and the court is entitled to

know, [is] what was going on around them at the time when they

were making the contract. This

were known to both parties, and to

what each might reasonably have expected the other to know."

In Investors Compensation Scheme Ltd v West Bromwich Building Society (1997) CLC 1243, 1258) Lord Hollmann, referring to

the matrix of fact, said: "Subject to the requirement that it should

have been reasonably available to

the parties ... it includes ab-solutely anything which would have affected the way in which the language of the document would

have been understood by a reason-

No authority was cited for that

roposition and it was not possible

to tell whether it was the subject of

argument. There did not appear to

(1992) 2 Lloyd's Rep 127, 133):

argument as to whether the claims ought to be struck out on the 1967, whose status and capacity were set out in Schedule 5 to the ground of public policy. 1091 Act

Mr Vosper had submitted that ablication by the defendant to the It seemed to his Lordship quite clear from a consideration of the police for the purpose of providing information to the Parole Board should be immune because there hoard's history and its present constitution and functions, that its proceedings could not be regarded as part of the proceedings of a court of law. The special immunity which amached to the proceedings was no satisfactory reason for drawing a boundary between the sentencing functions of the criminal court and the work of the Parole Board. Both were engaged in the same sentencing process

Under the modern practice in a criminal court, a victim's state-His Lordship could see no answer to the argument that communications to the board would be protected by qualified privilege, but he would not entend it to make the privilege absolute. ment obtained for the purposes of sentence would clearly be immune from process as would a later statement made by a victim for the purpose of consideration by the It might be that investigation would establish that all the defen-Although the defendant was not victim in the technical sense.

police related to the investigation of a possible offence by the plaintiff. On the other hand it might be established that some of her statements were directed to her complaints about the plaintiff and others were in answer to police inquiries concerning the plaintiff's application for parole.

In the circumstances it would

Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Swinton Thomas agreed. Solicitors: Smith Llewelyn

of matrix, which on examination

contributed little or nothing to the

true understanding of the parties

All, or almost all judges were now concerned about the huge cost of litigation. Such a wide definition

likely to increase the cost to no very

Since the Investors Compensa-tion case, Lord Justice Saville in National Bank of Sharjah v Dellborg (July 9, 1997) wrote about

surrounding circumstances and so did Lord Justice Judge.

His Lordship would add a plea-that surrounding circumstances should be confined to what the

parties had in mind, and what was

going on around them at the time when they were making the con-

Lord Justice Otton agreed and Lord Justice Robert Walker deliv-

Solicitors: Elliott & Co for

Biggart Baillie & Gifford, Glas-

ered a concurring judgment.

gow: Mr Gary Hodgson.

surrounding circumstances, ekground or matrix seemed

CONTRACT.

Mr Malcolm Chapple for British Telecom and Cellnet; Mr James Construing contract in its factual context Mellor for Virgin, Sainsburys, Ladirokes, and Marks & Spencer; Mr Philip Noble for One in a HIS LORDSHIP said that each counsel from producing a great-deal of evidence under the heading

of the plaintiffs in the five actions mary judgment was a well known business enterprise possessing substantial goodwill and valuable registered trade-marks most of which incorporated

Virgin Enterprises Ltd

Ladbroke Group plc v Same

Marks & Spencer plc v Same

Judgment November 25 A plaintiff could obtain a final

and a mandatory order for the assignment to it of the registration

of the domain name to prevent threatened passing off or breach of

Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC,

Mr Jonathan Sumpton, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge so held in the Chancery Division granting relief sought by five plaintiffs in five actions for

summary judgment, pursuant to Order 14 of the Rules of the

Order 14 of the Miles On the Supreme Court, against One in a Million Ltd, Mr Richard Conway and Mr Julian Nicholson, its directors, Global Media communi-

ications, a firm, and Amic, a firm.

who were all dealers in Internet

The plaintiffs were British Tele-

communications plc and Telecom Securicor Cellular Radio Ltd, Vir-gin Enterprises Ltd, J. Sainsbury plc, Ladbroke Group plc and Marks & Spencer plc.

Before Jonathan Somption, QC

I Sains

The defendants were dealers in Internet domain names. They registered names and sold them to potential users. They had made a eciality of registering Internet domain names comprising the names or trademarks of well known commercial or other enter-prises without the consent of those yet active sites but were available

For a dealer in Internet domain names there were in principle only four uses to which the marnes could

First and most obvious was that it might be sold to the enterprise whose name or trademark had been used, which might be prepared to pay a high price to avoid the inconvenience of there being a domain name comprising its own name or trade mark which was not Second, it might be sold to a

third party unconnected with fixe name. so that he might do or attempt to do the same thing or to British Telecommunications plc and Another v One is a Million and Others use it for purposes of deception

Internet names returned to traders

Third, it might be sold to comeone with a distinct interest of nis own in the name, for example a olicitor by the name of John Sainsbury or the government of the British Virgin Islands, with a view to its use by him.

Fourth, it might be retained by the dealer unused and unsold, in A primmin count contain a timal injunction against a future threat of injury restraining someone else from using its name or trademark as a domain name on the Internet which case it served only to block the use of that name as a registered domain name by others, including those whose name or trade mark i In each of the present cases it

was accepted that the defendants had registered domain names comprising the name or trademark of the plaintiff. The domain names which the defendants had registered marksandspencer.co; marksandspencer.co.uk;

sainsbury.com; sainsbury.com; sainsburys.com; ladbrokes.com; virgin.org: bt.org: cellnet.net. The plaintiffs alleged passing off and infringement of their trade marks. The sort of passing off could be committed by those who put or

authorised staneane to put an instrument of deception into the hands of others: Singer v Loog (1380) 18 Ch D 395, 412).

The mere exeation of an inare mere creamon of an in-stroment of deception, without either using it for deception or putting it into the hands of someone else to do so was not passing off. It followed that the mere registration of a deceptive company name or a deceptive rnet domain was not pas

la Directine Group Ltd v Directline Estate Agency (1997) FSR 374) and Glasso pic v Glassovelcome Ltd (1996) FSR 3889 the court granted what amounted restrain a threatened rather than an actual tort in relation to the registration of company names in which others had the goodwill where trading had not as yet been

fikely. In both cases, the injunctions were interlocutory rather than final and the threat was no doubt easier to establish in that context. But even a final quia timet injunction did not require proof that damage would certainly occur. It

was enough that what was going on was calculated to infringe the plaintiff's rights.

In the present cases, the threat of passing off and trade mark infringement of the mark, were made out beyond argument. The result was that the plaintiffs in all five actions were entitled to final injunctions quia timet restraining the use or sale of the domai names and compelling the assignment of the registration of the domain names to the plaintiff.

An order requiring the defen-dants to take steps to have the disputed names assigned to the plaintills went rather further than the negative form of injunction normally appropriate quia timet. But it seemed to his Lordship to he the most campletely effective remedy and one which did no imustice to the defendants for those names were of no value m them otherwise than as a means of threatening unlawful acts. It was the equivalent, in that rather arcane content, of the delivery up of

infringing goods. Harbottle & Lewis and S. J. Berwin & Co; Northwood Law Practice

Tax relief benefit lost through share transfer

Frankland v Commissioners of Iuland Revenue Before Lord Justice Peter Gibs

Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Chadwick Undement November 7

A transfer of shares from a deceased's estate subject to a discretionary trust into a new settlement if made within the first arter after the death meant that the benefit of tax relief under section 144 of the Capital Transfer Tax Act 1984 was lost.

The Court of Appeal so stated when dismissing an appeal by John Frankland against the order of Mr Justice Rattee on May 9, 1996 (1996) STC 739, confirming the determination dated October 12, 1995 of the Commissioners of the Inland Revenue that a deemer transfer of value of certain shares on the death of Christine Rowlinson on September 26, 1987 was not an exempt transfer. Mr Frankland was the sole

surviving executor and trustee of the will of the deceased. By that will she had created a dishusband was a beneficiary. The widower was the other executor

On December 22, 1987 the trustees transferred shares forming part of the deceased's estate subject to that trust out of the trust and into a new settlement to the income of which the widower was entitled

The trustees thereby sought to inheritance tax payable on the deceased's estate at her death. They hoped to obtain the relief made available by section 144 of the 1984 Act.

Section 144 provides:

(i) This section applies where property comprised in a person's estate immediately before his death is settled by his will and, within the period of two years after his death and before any interest. his death and before any interest on possession has subsisted in the property, there occurs — (a) an event on which tax would (spart from the section) be chargeable under any provision, other than section 64 or 79 ... of this Act, or (b) an event on which tax would be chargeable but for section 75 or

Mr Christopher McCall, QC and Mr Dirik Jackson for Mr Frankland; Mr Michael Forness for the Inland Revenue.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIB-SON said that the appeal gave rise to a short point of construction on the inheritance tax legislation. The question was whether the

FRANCHISES

No royally or managem

His Lordship adopted the Crown's case which was simple:

section 144(1) meant what it said and as the transfer of the shares was not an event on which tax would, apart from section 144, be chargeable, because the timing of the transfer was such that section 65(4) applied, the relief was not available. in construing a fiscal statute the

court had to read the statutory words in context and where the standary purpose was discernible the court had to give effect to it. Section 144 was unambiguous and only applicable to particular events of a specified description. It gave relief on events which, but for section 144 and other sections, would otherwise be chargeable to

Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Chadwick agreed. Solicitors: Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave, Bristol: Solicitor of In-

Correction In Circuit Systems Ltd v Zuken-Redac (UK) Ltd (The Times December I) counsel for the defen-

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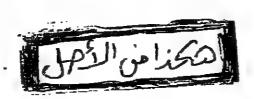
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Armstrong Technology Associates, 2 Wallsend marine design consultancy, is this year's winner of the Shell Livewire Export Challenge for small and medium-sized companies Livewire is now inviting applications for its 1998 Business start Up Awards for firms that have been running for three to 18 months. Call 0345 573 252.

Grant Thornton, the business affiser, is setting up a lobby group p campaign against new powers given to Customs and Excise to gaperty and computers. Grant daims the powers contravene European law. The first meeting is on Thursday in London Call Douglas Gordon on 01865 244977.

The 4,000th conversion of a redundant building by the Rural Development Commission was opened at Marsden, Huddersfield. Applications from the private secfor for grants may be sent to the commission at 19 Dacre Street, London SWIH ODH.

Abbey National is piloting a direct business and professional banking operation in the East Midlands, Central Midlands and East Anglia. It is aimed at sole proprietors and businesses with two partners keeping their accounts in credit and banking by elephone or post.

Britain's first bank accounts, products and services in the euro currency will be introduced by NatWest early next year, mainly to make trading easier for exporters and importers dealing with countries that enter European economic and monetary union in 1999.

☐ Jewson, the builders' merchant, and Royal Bank of Scotland have launched a Visa credit card for small businesses. Details from Jewson branches or call 0800 539766.

The Employee Share Ownership Centre, a non-profitmaking organisation, will hold a conference aimed at small and medium-sized businesses at the RAF Club, Piccadilly, London, on February 3: Call Fred Hackworth on 0171-436 9936.

☐ Two thirds of the exporters in a: survey by Trade Indeninity, the international credit insurer, believed that Britain's participation. in a single European currency: would benefit their business, although only a third of them were preparing for it, and 44 per cent regretted the Government's decision to stay out until after the next

SERVICES

Hobby bred opportunity to enjoy fruits of labour

Clare Stewart on a

thriving business that grew out of

the collecting bug

hris and Amanda Dennis have seen their hobby grow into a thriving business in the past three years. The Citrus Centre, just outside the small town of Pulborough, in West Sussex, is a retail and wholesale nursery. It offers a wide range with varieties of mandarin, kumquat and satsumas,

The centre's customer list is equally diverse, including amateur enthusiasts, Kew Gardens and the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley. They also have clients in

as well as oranges and lemons.

Portugal.
The idea for the nursery grew out of collecting citrus trees as a hobby and filling their house to capacity and beyond, says Mrs Dennis. "We spent 12 years finding out how to do it but the more we collected the less reliable was the information we could find about the plants."

Mr Dennis was a self-employed engineer, working mainly for small companies. He considered developing his other hobby, racing Minis. by building engu Mini spare parts. building engines and selling

The lemons won the day, although as Mr Dennis admits he had "tremendous worries" about making a business from a hobby. In 1994 they bought a house and ten-acre site of a former market garden. The Citrus Centre opened



Chris and Amanda Dennis have built up a diverse customer list for their citrus products

four months later at Easter 1995. While Mr Dennis concentrates on the propagation and cultivation of the plants, his wife deals with administration and marketing while also looking after their 19 monthedd son, Henry. Another unexpected factor

proved a valuable boost to the business. What helped initially was the change in 1994 of EC regulations that stopped citrus imperes coming in from outside Europe. It helped us tremendously because a lot of garden centres used to be supplied from countries like New Zealand," says Mr Dennis.

There are about 8,000 plants on the nursery spanning 130 varieties of citrus. Lemons are the biggest sellers and are usually recommended for beginners. The average customer spends about £40, says Mrs. Dennis.

Customer care, as much as plant care, is a key part of the business and buyers are encouraged to come back if they have problems. "Overwatering is the biggest killer," says Mr Dennis. "We are careful who we supply and have even turned people down because the conditions where the plants would be kept have not been right."

The couple admit that the first year was a voyage into the un-known. Our inital projections were guesswork. We underestimated the space needed and had no idea of costs for things like potting compost," savs Mr Dennis.

The Citrus Centre, which is based at Marehill, is expected to break even this year and will take another step forward with the addition of a large new glasshouse that will enable them to increase supplies to garden centres and other important customers. ☐ The Citrus Centre is on 01798

Small hotels press for B&B houses to pay business rates

BRITAIN'S small hotels are campaigning for business rates to be imposed on private householders who let rooms to tourists. The National Council of Hotels Associations has written to Hilary Armstrong, the Local Government Minister, asking for the rules on business rates, effective since 1991, to be properly enforced,

The letter follows a meeting between the council and the Valuation Office Agency at which the agency clarified the rules. The council also wants the minister to consider a complete review of the rating system which, it says, un-

fairly penalises small hotels. Business rates were to be imposed on private houses if beds were provided for at least six visitors, or if more than half the building was let. Local rating officers were given scope for discretion. For example, a very large house with six bedspaces let could be exempt from business rates while a small house with fewer than six bedspaces might qualify.

Valuation officers should take into account any physical alterations such as en-suite bathrooms, locks on bedroom doors and the type of furnishings. After complaints by small hoteliers that the rules were not being applied, the Valuation Office Agency has agreed to relssue instructions to local offices to remove any doubts

about the regulations. Fernley Smith, president of the National Council of Hotels Associations, says: "A large number of private householders have been taking in boarders and no one has been brought to book. Every summer you see houses with bed-andbreaklast signs outside. Guides published by the English Tourist Board, the AA, the RAC and other bodies are full of advertisements for private houses that take hoarders. Yet, as far as business rates are concerned, they are not known, not registered and not identified."

Mr Smith argues that the Thatcher Government got business rates wrong and subsequent Governments have failed to tackle the problem. He says: "Rating valuations are based on rental values. The world has changed. You can have a computer and a modern and make a million in your front room. Hotels and guesthouses have got an enormous investment in capital and are dependent on bedspace occupancy. The business rate is based on the rental value for the whole of the property for the whole of the year but beds are not filled all year round."



"I wish I was big enough to be reviled for making huge

Bank seeking truth about women

WHAT'S the truth about women in business? Are they naive or smart? Do they have trouble obtaining finance?- Is there sex discrimination? A - programme called Millennium Monitor has been introduced by Lloyds Bank to assess its 100,000 female business customers through six-monthly interviews over the next three years

(Brian Collett writes). The bank hopes to improve its understanding of women's issues — from difficulties in being taken

seriously in business to the complexities of simultaneously manag-ing a family and a company — and to remove any prejudices it may

The bank says that many women believe they have trouble securing business funding but this may be perceived rather than real. Millennium Monitor is part of Lloyds Bank's Female Focus 2000. an overall strategy designed to

help women to play a bigger role

in business. One of the aims is to

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appoint more women as bank managers. The strategy was launched vesterday in confunction with the European Commission's initiative. Female Entre-preneurship in Europe: Is a Woman's Business Different?

John Spence, Lloyds business banking managing director, said: "We'll use our data and future findings to reinforce the message to each of our managers that all business should be assessed on merit, not gender."

Charcoal back on front burner

A CHARCOAL industry creating new businesses and jobs in the Chilterns area will be proposed at a one-day conference early next year (Brian Collett writes).

The businesses would use surplus timber from woodland thinning and felling to make charcoal to meet the huge demand coming mainly from the rising popularity

of barbecuing. The Chilterns area sweeps across Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire and

Berkshire, and 20 per cent of it, about 40,000 acres, is covered by woodland. Much of the debris from thinning and felling is burnt on site, left to rot, taken as firewood, or transported by lorry, possibly 100 miles, to be turned into pulp or chipwood with little profit to the landowners, says the Chiltern Woodlands Project, a conservation body backed by public funds and private donations, which is organ-

ising the conference. About 95 per cent of the charcoal burnt in Britain is imported, so a Chilterns charcoal industry could benefit Britain's economy by cutting the import bill. Some of the charcoal may be from non-renewable sources, says the project, so a home-derived product would be environmentally more desirable.

The conference, at Aston Clinton. Buckinghamshire, on January 28, will consider good production methods, said John Morris, who heads the project. For further information call 01494 565749.

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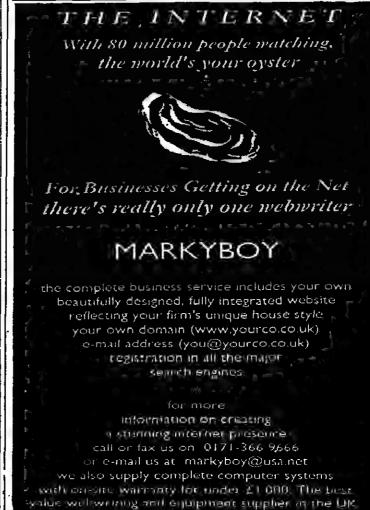
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The race for December's £1,000 prize begins The story so far It seems some thanks are in a mere seven days: witnesses for the story so far. The story so far in a mere seven days: witnesses for the story so far.

It seems some thanks are in order. I have to admit it. Your advice about the weekend revaluation was spot on for once.

Okay, it was snot on again, And are you telling me that you, for once, had the wisdom to take that advice?

Up to a point, yes. Only up to a point? Well, as I mentioned last week. I'm getting close to my

But you did manage to buy in some players who were revalued upwards?

Oh, yes. Baiano and Walsh. I couldn't afford Eranio. How nostalgic for you. Walsh was one of your original (cam back at the start of the season, wasn't he? Don't remind me. When I think of all the points he could have scored me if I hadn't been seduced by your talk

of tight Leeds defenders ... Thut's tight defences, actually, and Robert Molenaar scored quite a few points for you. don't forget. Agreed, but he seems to be out of favour with George Graham these days. He was only a substitute at Barnsley

it's no longer an eleven-man game these days.

But the player has to play at least a half to get an ap-

True, but Molenaar got a point for being on the winning side: not that that is much consolation to you. I suppose. Have you still got Babayaro, by the way? You've been very quiet about him since he actually made it into the Chelsea side. My spies say he had his best game so far on Saturday.

Yes, he's still in there — hasn't missed a game for me. Another clean sheet and a win against Derby: after my Walsh experience, I'm sticking with him. Did you have any inside information about revaluation, by the way?
None at all, it was a matter of logic, pure and simple.
I looked at the players in the ITF lists with high points totals but low valuations, and vice versa: John Hartson of West Ham is a good example. Nevertheless, I have to admit there were one or two revaluations that surprised me. Elliott, Walsh's mate, went down by half a million, for instance..

So you don't claim to know everything, then! Not at all. I merely give advice as I see it. Well, it's reassuring to know the self-styled experts are

If not quite as fallible as you.

November soon to be announced; plus FA Cup league details

nyone who names their team "The Undefeated" immediately becomes a hostage to fortune; but Mr A. Barlow of Newcastle upon Tyne has at least found his way to the top of this week's list of the highest climbers in the Interactive Team Football leagues. His score of 59 points in seven days has taken his selection up 46,720 places — from a rather modest 131,408th position to a relatively respect-

Unexpectedly, bearing in mind Mr Barlow's address. his team contains no players from the St James's Park strength. Ed De Goey and Gianfranco Zola have been the highest contributors to his total; with Chelsea playing and winning twice. De Goey keeping Everton and Derby at bay and Zola banging in the goals, the two Blues brought in 38 points between them.

The winners of the monthly ITF prizes for November will he announced on these pages next week. In addition to the main monthly winner, prizes including cash, sports equipment and tickets to premi league games are awarded to winners of the mini-leagues.

If you have that distinct nothing-to-play-for feeling so familiar to managers becalmed outside the European places yet comfortably out of the reach of relegation (although a monthly winner's



prize is always a possibility in TTP) then the coming weekend brings the draw for the third round of the FA Cup, when a home tie against a non-league side raises a vision of the twin towers - or the spectre of a humiliating knock-out. It is of

> HOW IS YOUR TEAM DOING? Call the ITF Checkline on 0891 884 843 50p a minute, using a Touch lone telephone Public



Hartson: fine recent performances have led to his price being increased

special relevance for ITF entrants; the third round, to be played over the first weekend of 1998, will mark the beginning of the ITF FA Cup league. Players in your team will score points based on their cup performances; transfer tactics will he crucial as the number of teams still in the cup shrinks round by round. More details will follow as third round day approaches.

I ITF helpline: 0!582 702720.

FAXBACK: YOUR UP-TO-DATE TEAM SCORES

The brand new Times Fauback service provides you with a complete results sheat of your team, showing current and total scores, dates, times and details of transfers, as well as your position in the ITF League and, if appropriate, your mini-league (womens, students, youth). Scores and transfer confirmation ed by 12 noon on the day following a match or matches.

e sure you have your ten-digit PRN number ready when you call. To obtain an ITF Team Faxba simply pick up the handset of the fax machine and dial the telephone number below. If your fax does not have a handset, attach a handset or press the on-hook or telephone button instead and dial the number below. Listen carefully to the Instructions and prese the appropriate buttons when asked, Calls cost £1 per minute and are available in the UK only.

0991 111 333

If you have any problems operating this service, call the Faxback Helpilne on 0173-412 3795.

All players

LEAGUE UPDATES



WOMEN'S LEAGUE

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STUDENTS' LEAGUE

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YOUTH LEAGUE

C Marianczak
R Wicke
M McPhillips
J Gardner
M Roberts
C Oyston
E Swirles
S Mawer
J Tompkins
R. Aklen
K Tindall
G Calderbank
T Smith
D Greenman
D Cheetham
Lamerce

D Lewis M Somapala

Lewis Boys II Horley Flames Jansen's XI Robbed Bailygaflyrovers
15 Chumbawumbas
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The Offspring Fe
Esthers Entertainers Calders XI Clifton Rovers Smooth United

ITF LEAGUE

Mr M Jones B Fazakerley Malcolm Jackson Mr M James

F Boxall
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Seven Makin
P Turner
Mr DP Kright
Chris Forde
James Tan
G Wilson
G Kooner
J Hunt
Mr M Jones
Mr N Wheatiey
P Rees
Mulcand
P Rowlings P Revolungs
A Old Barn House
Mary Ann Kennedy
Adam Fitziohn
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D Shuter
Mr W Finlay
P Bown

A Nevizzati Mr MC Gum J Huru K Fartadi I Hearter P Lee P Turner C Milher

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PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE

Lee Dison
Ugo Etiogu
Robbie Fowler
Patrick Berger
John Bereston
Colin Hendry
Stewart Casted
Chris Fowel
Andy Roberts
Lets Bohimen
Kasey Keller
Jian Fearce
Richard Johann
Steve Louise

Alun Steamer Let Caroliny Colin Calder

Jerby County
Arsenal
Assen Villa
Liverpool
Liverpool
Mexicante Unland
Backburn Rovers
Wimbledop

INTERNET LEAGUE

Susan Makin Chris Forde James Tan Mükund Philip Ward Mary Arm Ke Brian O'Hare Mary Ann Kenne Graeme Dabnor Michael Huddlest

Spud2 Game of Two Pipts Red Scousers Goulou Goulou Novote Spoilers Club 18-30 Winster Warriors 1 The Warriors Oilrig Pack RNG

POINTS DEDUCTED

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WOR

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ENTER ITF

£1,000, a signed Mitre football and a Mitre Sports bag, and tickets to a premier league match of your choice can be won every month, plus the chance to win £10,000 in a separate FA Cup League so enter the ITF now.

The manager of the month can be won by any team, no matter where it is in the overall ITF league. The prize simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one month. If you are a student or a woman (18 of over) you may also en the appropriate mini-league, while under-LS year olds enter the Youth league. These all carry separate monthly prizes.

By entering the ITF, your team will automatically be entered into a separate FA Cup league. Your players will earn you points for the FA Cup league (Littlewoods FA Cup and Tennents Scottis FA Cup) as well as the mein ITF league.

Remember the earlier you register, the more transfers your team will be allocated.

HOW TO ENTER

Entries to ITF via The Times are now by phone only, on

0891 405 011

From the Republic of ireland only +44 990 100 308

Witten the transport of the second of the Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defe 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.

■ Do not choose more than two individuals
(2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one olds.

■ Once you have chosen your tearn, call the entry line, above,

You will be given a ten-digit personal indentification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number as you will need your PIN for making transfers and checking your team score.

on future gaines. Loss success 50p per minute. Your call will cost about double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being

more than one manager of the month, the winner will be chosen at random. In the event of there being more

Who has the best foul and the latest football pages with families. The second football pages with families the second football pages with families and the second football pages with the second football pages



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Guide to players, transfers and revaluations

The latest alterations in player values came into effect yesterday. Shrewd ITF managers will find the bargains

months' time if Christian

Gross, the new Spurs manag-

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J Edinburgh

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22703 S Charlton

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the second player revaluation of the Interactive Team Football season took place at midnight on Sunday; the new valuations appear in the lists below.

Players and managers who have performed better than expected have seen their values jump, by as much as £2.5 million in one case, while those who have disappointed have, in turn, been relegated to the bargain basement.

As if fearing the worst, and hoping to make late appeals to those who make the decisions. a number of the fallen had successful weekends — none more so than Steve McManaman, the Liverpool captain, whose superbly-struck winning goal in the match against

A PLANTER 9-10 ft 1-27 30 **97**7 $\operatorname{gate}_{i, \mathcal{T}} \in \Psi^{\infty}$

NEW ITF VALUATIONS These new valuations for Interactive Team Football take 20002 Alan Wright
20303 Simon Grayson
22001 S I Bjornebye
30201 Tony Adams
30202 Simon Grayson
30301 Gardi Southy
30302 Ugo Entogu
30302 Ugo Entogu
Matt Elliott
32301 Philippe Albert
32801 Sol Campbell
40801 Dermis Wiss
42005 S McMamanum
42005 Brian Laudrup
42403 Jonas Thern
Robble Earle
50301 Dwight Yorka
50302 Stan Collymore
50301 Robble Fertier
62001 Robble Fertier

Arsenal at Highbury was an answer to his own and his White Hart Lane. Meanwhile, these two England squad reg-ulars are available at bargain team's critics, as well as being worth six points to his personal ITF points total. Rangers' Brian Laudrup (down from £8 million to £6.5 million), Shay Given of Sol Campbell and Ian Walker also enjoyed an unaccustomed victory on an opponent's ground when Tot-Newcastle (still one of the best young goalkeepers in the FA tenham won at Everton, and Carling Premiership) and Paul Ince, sure to be back to may be candidates for a return to higher valuations in two

er, has the desired effect at



Laudrup: one of last season's top points scorers, now devalued to £6.5 million

THIS WEEK'S MOVES OUT £2.5m £1 5m £1.5m **HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER**

☐ YOU MAY transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer allowance. It a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust

your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on EACH TEAM that was entered at the start of the season was allocated 60 transfers for the season and each team registering after that date has its number of transfers reduced by three per week up to

December 13. All teams registered before moon that day will be allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered after noon on December 13 will be allocated 20 transfers for the rest of the season. THE LINE is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may only make transfers by using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) You will need len digits for your PIN which you will have

to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions and tap in the fivedigit codes of the players that you are transferring. YOU MAY make up to tour transfers per call but may make as many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of transfers ☐ TRANSFERS made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12

noon will become effective for matches starting after 12 noon like YOUR NEW player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred xxt remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

CALLS COST 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost

Transfer number: 0891 884 628. Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538.

INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL LIST OF PLAYERS AND MANAGERS. INCLUDING DECEMBER REVALUATIONS IN BOLD TYPE

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	11201	5 Dykstra	Derby County Dundee United	2.00	-7 0	3	30601 30602	G Taggart G Bergsson	Bolton W Bolton W	1.50 1.00	5	5 13	40904 41002	P Teller S Rodger	Coventry City Crystal Palaca	1.50 1.00	1 2 4 20	50602 50603	N Blake P Beardsley	Bolton W Bolton W	3.50 2.00	4 0	21 14
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	12001	D James	Liverpool	3.50	8	42	30803 30804	S Clarke B Lambourde	Chelsea Chelsea	2.50 2.50	2	13	41106 41201	J Hunt R Winters	Derby County Dundee Utd	1.00 3.50	0 13 0 34	50902 50903	D Huckerby N Whelen	Coventry City Coventry City	2.50 2.00	1	20
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ľ	12401	A Goram K Pressman	Rangers Sheffield Wed	2.00	-2 1	21 -9	31001 31002	A Roberts A Linighen	Crystal Palace Crystal Palace	1.50 0.75	5 4	13	41403 41404	G Farrelly D Williamson	Everton Everton	1.50 2.00	2 6 2 16	51101 51103	D Sturridge F Balano	Derby County Derby County	4.00	0	19 38
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	12901 13001	L Miklosko N Salilvan	West Ham Utd Wimbledon	2.00	3	8 36	31102 31201	J Laurson S Pressley	Derby County Dundee Utd	1.50 2.00	0	12 B	41602 41701	B Lavety J McIntyre	Hibemian Klimamock	2.00	1 20	51202 51301	K Olohuson G Britton	Dundee United Dunfermine	4.00 2.00	0	34 10
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	20602	J Philips	Balton W Bolton W	1.00	ŏ	õ	32302 32303	D Pascock S Howey	Newcastle Utd Newcastle Utd	3.00 2.00	0	9	42301 42302	R Lee K Gillespie	Newcastle Utd Newcastle Utd	5.00 3.50	0 <u>22</u> 2 21	52101	O Solskjaer	Manchester Utd	7.50	6	18
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THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY DECEMBER 2 1997

NEWS

Zero-tolerance officer suspended

■ Britain's leading exponent of "zero tolerance" policing was suspended from duty over allegations that he leaked information and may have been involved in criminal conduct. Detective Superintendent Raymond Mallon, head of Middlesbrough CID and darling of Labour and Tory politicians, was suspended as part of a corruption investigation in which two of

his detectives have already been suspended Blair begins search for perfect polls

Tony Blair opened the way to changing Britain's voting system by appointing a commission to recommend alternatives and promising a referendum before the next general election. In the move, welcomed by Paddy Ashdown as "a truly historic moment in British democratic history". Mr Blair put Lord Jenkins of Hillhead in charge of the exercise....

Parking attacked

Free workplace parking is to be ministers' main target in the curbing of car use by increasing the cost of motoring...... Page 2

Spencer talks

The Earl and Countess Spencer were in talks with lawyers last night amid speculation that they were negotiating an out-of-court divorce settlement.Page l

EMU battle

Britain was fighting an uphill battle to persuade its main EU partners not to lock it out of a planned single currency Euro-Council . .. Page I

Judge accused

Judge Harman who gave judgment on April Fool's Day in 1996 in a case that began in 1994 was accused of "inordinate, inexcusable, unacceptable and extraordinary" delayPage 3

CJD test delay

Tests to discover if a woman donor was suffering from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease were carried out two weeks ago, more than six months after patients were given corneal implants taken from her . .. Page 5

Drug withdrawn

A drug for diabetics has been withdrawn two months after going on sale in Britain because there is evidence that it can cause fatal liver damage, harming one in 5,000 patients.... ...Page 6

Teaching flop

The number of people applying to be secondary school teachers is dropping sharply despite a £1 million cinema advertising

Bordeaux's best

A new league table of best clarets has bruised the reputations of some of the world's most renowned wines and puts a new-...Page ii

US melted Nazi gold

America melted down the personal effects of Holocaust victims and returned the gold to European central banks seven years after the end of the Second World War, a London conference will be told today... ... Page 12

Medical waste resold Half the infectious waste from

Delhi's 82 hospitals and 2,500 nursing homes is estimated to make its way on to the Page 13 marketplace....

Israell homes snub The Israeli Government snubbed

Washington by granting permission for the building of homes for 900 more Jewish families in the occupied West Bank Page 14

Winnie murder link

New evidence linking Winnie Madikizela-Mandela with a township doctor's murder emerged amid increasing allegations that she has orchestrated witness intimidation...... Page 15

Stéphane Grappelli dies aged 89

■ The French jazz violinist Stéphane Grappelli died in a hospital in Paris, the city where he was born 89 years ago. A self-taught musical virtuoso, he began his career playing the violin around the nightclubs of Montmartre and Montparnasse. Despite his recurrent heart problems, he played on well into his Eighties ...



Baby Spice takes a rehearsal break before yesterday's Royal Variety Performance in London, to be screened on ITV on Saturday

Coal: The Confederation of UK Coal Producers called for support

BUSINESS

for the coal industry for a year while a strategic review decides the way ahead Page 27 Brewing: Shares in Scottish &

Newcastle frothed to 714's p as Britain's biggest brewer shrugged off a poor performance from Center ...Page 27 Traders: JP Morgan, the US invest-

ment bank, said it had suspended

two traders as the investigation widens into Friday's flurry of late share deals that caused a sharp stock market decline......Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 90.0 points to close at 4921.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose to 105.8

after a rise to \$1.6847 and

Footbalk England are not expected to be in the top eight seedings when the Fifa World Cup organising committee allocate the positions in

SPORT

Ruciby union: Ben Clarke has been recalled to the England A side which takes on New Zealand at Leciester tonight in another testing week for English rugby Page 49 Snooker: Four years after winning his first important tournament Ronnie O'Sullivan is again challenging for the status of the game's

Recing: In the wake of criticism from leading trainers four National Hunt trainers have been invited to advise Newbury about the state of the ground at the

Full force: Ian McDiarmid is joint artistic director of the Almeida Theatre. He also once tried to kill Inspector Morse, and is 100 years old in Star Wars....

ARTS

Exclusive CD offer: Richard Morrison introduces The Times's Christmas offer: three unreleased recitals by the great Russian pianist Sviatoslav Richter_ .Page 34

Country cousins: Two new shows, by British artists Matt Collinshaw and Rose Finn-Kelcey, bring sinister undertones to apparently innocent rural scenes ...

People power: Two sold-out nights at Wembley Arena suggest that fans of the band the critics love to hate, M People, pay little heed to the taste-makers.

TOMORROW

ENTERTAINMENT The Borrowers .. at last a real children's film for Christmas

linked by computers. Plus, techno-gift guide

IN THE TIMES

INTERFACE The security guards of tomorrow will be gasfilled "spy" balloons

plex behavioural problems, the children had taxed the resources of several primary schools. Now they are responding to the principle that everyone has unique talents that must be recognised Page 16

PEATURES

Save the children: With their com-

Title-tattle: As sparks fly during the Earl Spencer divorce case, Patricia Quinn, the actress who became Lady Stephens, reflects on how her life changed. Page 17

THE NAME OF STREET Sweet success: How a citrus-tree hobby grew into a thriving Page 23

Libel leader: Mark Stephens, a media lawyer, explains why London is the libel capital of the ...Page 39 Good value: Solicitors complicate

matters and draw out the legal process? On the contrary, says David McIntosh, they provide good value... Page 41

It is up to (Russian Orthodox) church leaders to condemn auti-Semetism and promote tolerance. They cannot pass the responsibility of inculcating these values on to the Government. Such prejudices can-

batted only by the moral courage of community leaders - The Moscow Times

Proview: Old files reveal a new Lenin in Timewatch (BBC2 9pm); Review: Joe Joseph on men - and women - behaving _Pages 50, 51

Browned off

The combination of wheedling half-promises and threats deployer by Gordon Brown in Brussels was a wasteful use of Britain's political muscle. Of all the EMU battles, a British Euro-Council seat is the one that matters least Page 19

Islamabad on the brink The fault for this constitutional crisis lies with Nawaz Sharif. Rarely has a politician so squandered the goodwill that accompanied his

.. Page 19 Donors and doctors

The Scottish Office has moved swiftly to establish an inquiry with a broad brief; it is to be hoped that openness will reduce the risk of recipients waiting to find hopes of a new life dimmed....

PETER RIDDELL

The establishment of the Independent Commission on the voting system both fulfills a manifesto pledge and keeps the Lib Dems happy, while deferring the real decision

LIBBY PURVES

Do Labour backbenchers forget there are people relying on them? Who did not vote exclusively for the glitzy leadership but for a genuine change in priorities.......... Page 18 JOHN REDWOOD

The Government explain how does it expects people to save and invest when the taxman is after their Page 18 money?.... ANATOLE KALETSKY

Whether there will in fact be an Asian depression now depends on Ryutaro Hashimoto, who has so far repeated all the mistakes of Herbert Hoover

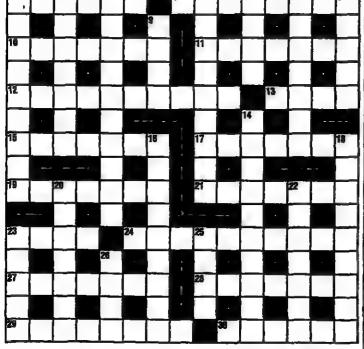
OBITOARUES

Stephane Grappelli, jazz violinist; Kathy Acker, writer and performance artist; Sir Alec Ogilvie, businessman Page 21

LEFFER

not be disproved. They can be com-Mine closures; NHS waiting lists; legal aid for children; Royal Yacht;

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,652



ACROSS 1 Duke had rings turned into ornament (b). 4 Daily record of passing interest

10 Claret I put out for the performance (7). 11 Some in Dover seem to manage

Ignore a team after confrontation

13 Source of power king and I had 15 One who indulges in something

sweet (7). 17 One politician elected, for examole, returned to make an impact

19 Reject out of hand (7). 21 Blow up revolutionary general

23 Outstanding example of clue endlessly being copied (4). 24 Good results I have, one after another (10).

27 The last place where you'd expect to find Charlie (4-3). Solution to Pozzle No 20,651

HOCUSPOCUS DISAB UN ORAC CA STRAUTHY THEORY OM HISTORY OBSTRAIN THEORY OBSTRAIN THEORY OBSTRAIN THEORY OBSTRAIN THEORY ORAC CANADA ORAC CA

28 Beastly authority quickly introducing university cut (7). 29 Cancel deliveries before journey

30 Boy and girl in old part of India

 Move quickly to get on target for guided missiles (9). 2 Block giving Doc due to disorder

3 Follow Nanny's example? Hardly! (3,3,4). 5 Outstretched leg, perhaps, in attack (9).

 Excessively sentimental material needs cutting (4). 7 One without a place to get item published (4-3).

8 You investigate every little detail - leads to turn over (5). 9 Not a sign of times, unless you change the angle (4).

14 For example, Jonathan - with brass accompaniment, of course (5.5). 16 Came back with circular about editor (9).

18 Spirit shown by English, with the

French in mind (9). 20 Cross sailor getting over anger 22 Fencing, encounter trouble in fighting area (7). 23 Pound German got in game of

chance (5). 25 Nice people might scoff at one (4). 26 Part of tree left something to be desired? (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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HOMEST & LINEST



FLIGHT SAVERS LONDON'TO PARIS£59.... LONDON TO COPENHAGEN£99.... ONDON" TO EDINBURGH <u>... £59...</u> 0990 074 074

KLMASAIrUK

General: England and Wales will have another cold day with frost early and late. Central and western areas will

and late. Central and western areas will be mostly dry with some sunshine, atthough some coastal rein and sleet showers are likely. Eastern and south-eastern England will be more cloudy with showers of sleety rain and wet snow. Northern ireland and western Soutland will also be cold, but with plenty of sunshine and just a few coastal wintry showers. Eastern Soutland will have sunny scells and snow showers. Tonioht sunny spells and snow showers. Tonight, cold everywhere.

☐ London, SE England, E Auglier cold with limited sunshine, wintry show-ers and longer spells of sleet and hill-anow. Light N wind. Max 3-5C (37-41F). Ci Cent S England, E Midsands, E England, Cent N England, NE England: cold with surny spells and showers, snow on hills. Light N wind. Max 3-5C (37-41F).

☐ W Midlands: early frost and freezing fog will clear to leave surmy spells withoccasional showers, wintry on high ground. Light N to NE wind, Max 4-SC (39-43F).

Channel leles; cold with sunny spells C Outlook: staying cold.

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FORECAST ... and a few showers. Light NW wind, Mar

> SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake District, tale of Blant sarly frost and fog will clear to leave surny spells, north-facing coasts and hills will have blant and blank will have showers, with anow on high ground Light N to NW wind. Max 4-7C (39-45F) ☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundes, Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland; sunny spells mixed with sharp showers of hai, sleet and snow. Moderate N to NE wind. Max 2-5C (36-41F).

> Sw Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland: meinly dry with sunny spells but some winty showers on north-facing coasts and hills. Moderate N wind. Max 3-6C (37-43F). M tretand: cold with sunny spells and

> showers, mostly close to the coast. Wintry over the hills. Moderate N to NE wind. Max 4-6C (39-43F).

[] Republic of Ireland: showers on NW-tecing crests dying out. Surny spells. Frosty overnight. Wind trush NW. Cold. Max 7-9C (45-48F).

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AROUND ENGLEM YESTERDAY

Changes to chart below from noon: low X will move slowly SE with pressure



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INSIDE **SECTION** TODAY



BUSINESS

How the Paymaster General banked a personal fortune PAGE 31



LAW

The group that helps witnesses to face the courts **PAGES 39-41**



SPORT

O'Sullivan reaping rich rewards from fitness regime **PAGES 45-52**

TELEVISION and **RADIO PAGES**

50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY DECEMBER 2 1997

Samsung abandons £450m investment for UK

SAMSUNG, one of the big four South Korean conglomerates or chaebol, reacted to the financial turmoil sweeping South-East Asia by shelving plans for a £450 million investment on Teesside.

The electronics group was planning to increase its Tees workforce from 1,400 to 3,000 by the millennium. However, Samsung said that current jobs on Teesside would not be affected. The plant currently manufactures microwave ovens, colour televisions and computer monitors.

Samsung had wanted to add the manufacture of faxes and personal computers to the Teesside factory's production line. Ceghill Shin, pres dent of Samsung Europe, said:

to all its existing operations and manufacturing facilities across Europe, including our sites at Wynyard Park and Billingham in Teesside, particularly as we see

ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE Organisation for Economic

Co-operation and Development has

cut its growth forecasts for Japan in

the light of Asia's economic and market crisis.

The group, based in Paris, now believes that Japan will grow by

Tony Henderson, a spokesman for the company said: "This represents a delay, a putting on hold of the continuation of the development." He said that at the moment it

only 21 per cent next year com-pared with its forecast in June that

the economy was set to expand by nearly 3 per cent. For 1997, the

OECD is expecting growth of only 0.8 per cent, the lowest rate of

It said that the Japanese economy

should see a reacceleration of

growth in the second half of this

growth seen since 1994.

who work here at the moment it is business as normal." In South Korea yesterday it was another gloomy day for the world's

Asian economies could have a

negative effect on Japanese busi-

ness sentiment and exports, partic-

"The deeper and longer these

difficulties last, the more severe

would be the impact on Japan's

ularly to Asian markets.

age. The Seoul stock market hit a ten-year low as investors scurried

for cover from the expected fallout of

cuts growth forecast for Japan rest of Asia," it said, urging Japan to keep its interest rates low in order

> The OECD said it would be some time before the bad loans problem of Japan's banking system was likely to be fully resolved, and that the process could be further complicated by rising bankruptcies.

lost 3.6 per cent or 14.70 points to 393.16, crashing through the psychologically significant 400-point mark. The close was the lowest since June 27, 1987, when the index stood

President Clinton said he would favour America taking part in a financial aid package for South Korea if Seoul reached a strong agreement with the IMF.

He explained: "I favour a strong agreement with the IMF that would actually restore financial stability and confidence in South Korea. If such an agreement could be made, then I would favour the United States participating along with

Japan. The President, however, would not be drawn on how much the US

BUSINESS TODAY

3-mih Interbank

GE Capital lines up PPP in move to healthcare

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent

GE CAPITAL, the acquisitive financial services arm of the huge US corporation GE, is close to taking over PPP, one of the biggest healthcare companies in the UK.

It is believed to have beaten off competition from Guardian Royal Exchange and Halifax. which were among a number of bancassurers and insurers keen to acquire the

Peter Owen, PPP's chief executive, is finalising details which would make PPP a subsidiary of GE Capital while retaining a large degree of independence. The deal would also create generous share options for PPP's directors, but will mean job cuts for grass roots employees as the US corporation attempts to make the healthcare provider more profitable.

The £12 billion healthcare market in the UK is so competitive that an attempt to increase profitability by posting huge increases in premi-ums for PPP policyholders after the sale would be unthinkable.

The private medical insurance industry has been suffering from flat sales of new policies over the past two years and public belief that the new Government will pour money into the National Health Service has done nothing to kick-start demand for private cover.

The move comes amid a huge shake-up of healthcare services in the UK and as Bupa, the leading healthcare insurer with 45 per cent of the market, is bidding to buy the nursing home provider, Care

Although PPP has never publicly released the figures, it has spent £50 million over the past three years building up

its reputation and brand name

through television and newspaper advertising. One industry observer commented: That advertising was aimed as much at the City as at potential customers of PPP, but the campaign has taken its toll on profitability. It is an ideal time now for GE Capital to step in and take advantage of the groundwork. For PPP, the advantage of GE Capital panies or banks it that the management structure is likely to be retained relatively intact and the business has the support of a rich and powerful

A price tag of up to £600 million for PPP represents a huge multiple over the healthcare provider's earnings. PPP employs just over 2,400 people and has in-creased its workforce as it ventured into areas such as long-term care.

Profits last year were £25 million, down from £66 million a year earlier on sales of

£717 million. Halifax and Royal & Sun-Alliance have dropped out of the running. GE Capital has the financial muscle to take on other bidders. It is one of the most acquisitive businesses in European financial services and has made no secret of its plans to expand

PPP was converted from a provident company into a conventional company owned by a charity after the arrival of Peter Owen as chief executive in 1994. It has already negotiated a deal to buy MIS, the Eastbourne healthcare com-pany that employs 100 people around the UK and is already testing marketing and distribution strategies with Halifax and GE Capital.



Not making a splash: Center Parcs saw profits slump because of the strong pound

Scottish & Newcastle takes Courage from price leap

BY DOMINIC WALSH

SHARES in Scottish & Newcastle frothed 19½p higher to 714'2p yesterday as Britain's biggest brewer shrugged off a poor perfor-mance from Center Parcs to report a 15 per cent jump in

first-half profits.

Pre-tax profits in the halfyear to October 26 rose from £195.1 million to £224.5 million as beer and retail both performed strongly. Turnover was static at £1.68 billion.

Leading the Way was Scottish Courage, its brewing division, where investment in top brands such as Foster's and John Smith's paid off with a 29 per cent leap in operating profits to £115.9 million. Highlighting volume growth of 30 per cent for chief executive of S&N, said: "Our beer performance is out Brands were also the key to

the 15.6 per cent profit rise to £86.9 million from managed houses, where returns on investment in concepts such as Chef & Brewer and Rat & Parrot continued to flow through. Tenanted houses declined by 2 per cent to £11.6 million on a 6 per cent cut in the number of outlets.

The black spot was leisure where profits from Center Parcs dropped by 17.5 per cent to £321 million due to the costs and a weak market in France and Germany. Mr Stewart was adamant that Center Parcs would be retained, though Pontin's, which saw profits halve to £3.2 million, is gradually being whittled down.

Earnings per share were 27.5p (24.3p) and an interim dividend of 7.93p (7.2lp) will be paid on February 6.

Coal producers seek immediate help ahead of industry review

By Christine Buckley and Philip Bassett

THE Confederation of UK Coal Producers has called for support for the coal industry for the next year while a strategic review of the industry decides the way ahead.

In a submission to the Trade and Industry Select Committee, the coal producers are seeking a wholesale review of the increased use of gas in electricity production has cut reserves from 23 years to 13

The producers believe that the coal industry should be supported next year while reviews determine what future it has in the energy market. The Select Committee tomorrow starts an inquiry into coal.

John Battle, the Energy Minister, will be confronted by hundreds of miners in a lobby as he appears at the committee. The hearing was hastily convened in response to the growing controversy over the future of the industry and impending pit

Richard Budge, RJB's chief executive, will be forced for the first time to set out RJB's current coal contracts position when he is questioned by the MPs. Yesterday the RJB board considered the options facing falling coal demand, which may lead to the closure of up to eight of RIB's pits with the loss of 5,000 miners' jobs. An RJB spokesman said the

company was unlikely to make any further statement but has accepted an invitation from the Select Committee to Originally, the committee failed to ask RJB and Mr Budge to give evidence, expect-

ing him to talk to the committee in his capacity as chairman of the coal producers' association. But after it became clear that Mr Budge did not intend to attend in that role, a flurry of contacts at the end of last week and over the weekend led to the invitation being issued in time for tomorrow's

☐ Sir Bernard Ingham, the former No 10 press spokesman, said the coal industry had been run down too quickly under the Conservatives.

But Sir Bernard, previously press head to the now Baroness Thatcher when she was Prime Minister, also told the Coal industry Society that the industry was in part smaller now than it should be because of the impact of Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader.

FTSE 100

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb) \$18.20 (\$18.90 GOLD

London close \$294.25 (\$298.95)

Imperial sees tobacco slump speed up

IMPERIAL TOBACCO, the Embassy cigarettes company that was demerged from Hanson last year, has seen a sharp acceleration in the decline of the UK tobacco market (Paul

Durman writes).
The UK market, in which Imperial holds a 37.9 per cent share, contracted by 5 per cent last year to about 77 billion

Imperial reported a pre-tax profit of £307 million. Last year's comparative of £366 million is misleading because of the changes stemming from the demerger. A final of 14.2p a share will make a total dividend of 21.4p, a 7 per cent rise from the notional dividend suggested during the demerger.

Tempus, page 30

JP Morgan suspends two over dumping of shares

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

JP MORGAN, the US investment bank, has suspended two traders as an investigation into the flurry of late share decline in the stock market on Friday widens.

The FTSE 100 fell 38 points in the final minute of trading on Friday after the two traders dumped stocks such as Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham into the thin market.

JP Morgan said that the traders had been suspended after an internal investigation into potential violations of the London Stock Exchange and Securities and Futures

Authority Rules". It added that it was co-operating with the Stock Exchange and the SFA in their investigations. A Stock Exchange spokes

man confirmed that the SE was examining the role of the JP Morgan traders in the fall of the market and were considering whether there had been any manipulation. City dealers fear that new

automated settlement system. Sets, has left the market vulnerable to deliberate manipulation of FTSE 100 prices in order to enhance derivatives positions such as index options. Sets, which was introduced a month ago, automatically matches buy and sell orders but when trading is thin there is often a wide spread between buy and sell

The problem has been compounded by many brokers removing bid and offers from trading screens just before close, leaving last orders to be executed against the few widely divergent price quotes. On Friday, a dearth of buy orders resulted in the sale of the pharmaceutical driving the overall FTSE 100 index lower.

Commentary, page 29

You know a good quote when you see it.

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John Charcol.

property value (0.95% (7.5%APR) for fours to 90% of property value) # Freedom to select your own buildings and contents insurance # Extremely favourable redemption penalties: 5% of the loan in year one reducing to I'm of the han in year o. I month's interest or notice thereafter, John

you peare of mind until October 2002 in an increasingly uncertain world. The details: • 6.55% (6.886APR) fixed to 5/10/2002 • Available for purchases and remortgages up to 75% of

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with lashings of





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Wainhomes bounces back to £4m

WAINHOMES, the housebuilder that was the subject of a Serious Fraud Office investigation and had a management overhaul last year, yes-terday reported a 129 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the six months to October 3, from £1.7 million to £4 million (Chris Ayres writes).

Turnover was £47.7 million (£45 million). Earnings per share were 4.5p. up 137 per cent from 1.9p. An unchanged interim dividend of 1.5p will be paid on January 9.

The company, whose managing director is Bill Ainscourt, said that improved margins and higher selling prices had helped performance, and that it had bought 517 plots of land since the half-year end.



Conflicting signals may prompt clash at MPC

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS EDITOR

MIXED messages from the economy yesterday set the stage for a potentially contentious meeting of the Bank of England's interest-rate setting Monerary Policy Committee. starting tomorrow.

Yesterday's batch of economic data showed few signs that the economy is slowing under the weight of sterling's continued appreciation and successive increases in base rates, giving support to hawks on the MPC who would like to raise rates again. However, there was enough ambiguity

BRITISH GAS has launched

an assault on the competitive

insurance market with a pilot

scheme to sell home and con-

Centrica, the parent com-pany of British Gas, has

teamed up with Privilege, the

insurance company, to put

together the trial scheme that

will be marketed under the

British Gas and Goldfish

brands across Britain early

The venture will contact

holders of Goldfish credit

tents insurance to customers.

in the latest economic evidence to make any decision on base rates this week a difficult one. The latest survey of purchasing managers by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply showed that UK manufacturing expanded at a slightly increased rate for the third month running in

level for seven months. Strong domestic demand outweighed the negative impact of sterling's strength.
allowing orders to show their

November, with growth in the

sector recording its highest

BG moves into insurance

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent

up to British Gas's Three-star

Roy Gardner, Centrica chief

executive. said: "Home insur-

ance is a logical extension of

our current financial services

portfolio. It marks a further

step in our strategy of provid-

ing customers with a range of

products and services centred

on home comfort and safety."

Privilege was founded in 1994 by Peter Wood, its chair-

man and the man responsible

for Direct Line, the highly

successful telephone insur-

ance company. Mr Wood is a

home service product.

fastest rate of growth for a year. Most notable for those who are still looking for an impact on exporters from the pound, export orders rose for the second month running. albeit at a modest rate.

At the same time, there appears to be little inflationary threat from manufacturing with industry's average input prices falling for the twenty-fifth month in a row.

Other statistics released yesterday suggested little let-up in the strength of the consumer

non-executive director

Benefits offered by the

scheme include rebates on a

range of British Gas products

and services equivalent to a

third of the insurance premi-

um. Alternatively, customers can receive Goldfish points.

The Goldfish credit card was launched in 1996 as a joint

venture between Centrica and

HFC Bank offering discounts

on products from a number of

companies including Asda.

Boots and BT as well as

rose by a seasonally adjusted 1901 million in October compared with an increase of £762 million in September. There was a special factor in October's high figure which repre-sented a bounce back from September's low retail sales and therefore credit card spending — caused by the death of Diana. Princess of Wales. Nevertheless, there is little evidence that consumer

despite higher interest rates. Narrow M0 money supply jumped 1 per cent in November, taking its annual growth rate to 6.8 per cent from 6.5 per cent in October. However, interpreting this figure is also difficult because of the distorting introduction of the new 50p coin.

appetite for credit has waned

Counteracting recent anec-dotal evidence of a modest slowdown in housing market activity, the Halifax today reports that house prices rose 0.9 per cent in November after an increase of 0.5 per cent in

The annual rate of increase rose from 5.4 per cent in October to 6.1 per cent, the highest figure since June 1989. However, the Halisax gave warning that this rate of house price inflation was unlikely to be sustained in coming months.

Midwest banks in \$7bn merger

FROM OLIVER AUGUST

CONSOLIDATION in the US banking sector has reached the Midwestern states with the \$7.1 billion (£4.22 billion) merger of First Of America Bank and National City Corporation. In October First Union and CoreStates Financial tied the knot in a record \$16 billion deal, giving them a strong position along the east coast. First Of America sharehold-

ers will swap one share for every 1.2 National City shares, creating the thirteenth largest banking organisation in the US in terms of total assets by the second quarter of 1998. The combined company will have assets of \$75 billion.

National City is based in Cleveland, Ohio, and First Of America in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The deal is the latest in a wave of mergers which has seen the number of banks shrink as they try to save money by cutting office and staff costs back, while boosting revenue through the acquisition of a larger customer

National City estimates it will be able to reduce expenses by 30 per cent through the consolidation of staff and by merging operations. The two companies expect to incur one time, pre-tax charges, of \$350 million as a result of the deal

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

IT firms await stock exchange decision

THE UK's information technology companies should discover today whether they are to be granted their own London stock market sector. The FTSE actuaries industry classification committee was considering the proposal yesterday afternoon before making its decision known today. The proposal would see software companies such as Logica, currently housed in the support services sector, transferred to an information technology category, although the fate of companies such as Psion, which predominantly sells electronic hardware, was uncertain before the meeting.

The software industry hopes that a separate information technology classification will stimulate interest from analysts and interest from analysts.

and investors. Research by Granville, the investment bank, claimed that 70 per cent of UK fund managers believe a separate information technology sector would be better than the current system.

Eurocamp puts up profit

EUROCAMP, the camping holiday specialist, is in the mood for acquisitions after reporting a 21 per cent jump in pro forma 1997 pre-tax profits to £11.2 million on turnover 2 per cent higher ar £106.4 million. After a change in the year end, the company also reported profits for the 11 months to September 30, which came in slightly higher at £11.3 million. It said acquisitions were "a distinct possibility". Pro forma earnings were up 18 per cent to 21.6p, and a final dividend of 7.75p makes 11.5p (11p).

Leopold Joseph slips

LEOPOLD JOSEPH HOLDINGS, the International mer-chant bank, saw half-year pre-tax profits slip £70,000 to £L02 million, reflecting increased investment in the business and some underperformance. Expenses leapt 24 per cent to £3.7 million as the company set up a new trust operation in the Bahamas. Analysis liked the underlying growth in income of ló per cent, pushing the shares up 5p to 635p. The interim dividend is unchanged at 4.5p.

Britons 'underinsured'

BRITONS are underinsured and unprepared for retirement, serious illness or the cost of long-term care, according to a report on the UK insurance industry by the European Policy Forum, an independent research group. The report finds that one in three families has no life cover, less than 10 per cent of adults have individual permanent health insurance and more than eight million employed and self-employed people have no personal pension arrangements to supplement state provision.

UDO receives approach

UDO, the office supplies and reprographic services group, yesterday revealed that it had received a bid approach that could value the company at up to £47 million, or 210p a share. The statement came after UDO's shares rose sharply last week as speculation over a possible takeover approach heightened. It also followed a buyback in August of 7.4 million shares — about 25 per cent of the company's capital — returning £10 million to shareholders.

Allen advances 51%

ALLEN, the building, contracting and engineering group, raised pre-tax profits 51 per cent in its half year to September 28, from £4.7 million to £7.1 million; on turnover up 78 per cent, from £71 million to £127 million. Gearing rose from 31.4 per cent to 45.7 per cent. Earnings per share rose 40 per cent, from 8.75p to 12.29p, and an interim dividend of 4.38p, up from 3.07p, is due on January 30. The company said that the three acquisitions made this year were performing well.

research creates millionaire

By Fraser Nelson

AMERICAN scientist who sold his house to set up business in Northern Ireland during the 1980s will become a paper millionaire this month when his company joins the Alternative Investment Market valued at £30 million.

Scott Blackstone, who set up in Belfast to capitalise on the research facilities available at Queen's University, is in line for a shareholding worth £1.2 million when BCO Technologies raises £10 million through a flotation.

After putting his own per-sonal wealth on the line, he recruited six graduates from the university's engineering faculty to work on silicon chip engineering devices.
They developed a system

that doubled the number of chips carved on a silicon water, and won grants from the International Ireland Fund and British venture capitalists. The company now acts as a refinery between the silicon manufacturers and the microchip producers, making 1,000 silicon wafers a month. Dealings are due to start on December 15.



1			
		Bank Buys	Bar Sa
	Australia S	2 58	2.4
	Austria Sch	22.01	20.3
Į	Belgium Fr	64.81	59.8
	Canada \$	2.521	2,33
ı	Cyprus CypE .	0.917	0.84
ı	Denmark Kr	11.98	11.0
ļ	Finland Mikk	9.58	8.
ı	France Fr	10.48	9.6
ı	Germany Drn .	3.15	25
ı	Greece Dr	494	44
ı	Hong Kong \$	13,83	12.0
J	lceland	121	10
1	Ireland Pt	1.20	1.1
1	Israel Shk	8.32	5.6
ı	Italy Line	3101	286
1	Japan Yan	232.13	214.6
ı	Malta	0.687	0.62
ł	Netherlds Gld	3,558	3.26
ı	New Zealand S	291	2.6
ı	Norway Kr	12.80	11.8
1	Portugal Esc	317.53	295.5
ı	S Africa Rd	8.88	7.9
ı	Spain Pta	263.79	245.0
١	Sweden Kr	13.94	12.8
Ì	Switzerland Fr	2.56	2.3
ł	Turkey Lira	335114	31523
ı	10.4	4 700	- 1

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to cheques. Rates as trading yesterday.

Belfast chip | Carmakers head for export record

BY KEVIN EASON, MOTORING EDITOR

smashing export records, with motor manufacturers on target for their best overseas sales for 45 years in spite of the

strength of sterling.

Exports will reach nearly a million this year, with six out of ten cars from British factories destined for overseas showrooms. The revival is one of the most remarkable in the world. with production for export doubling in just seven years.

Not since the days when the names of Austin, Morris. Standard and Triumph were familiar around the globe



BRITISH carmakers are have British-made cars been so in demand. The Japanese buy Nissans made in Washington, while the Italians queue for Rovers. Toyotas and Hondas made here line the docksides of Europe on their way to buyers all over the Continent, and Jaguar has made its XK8 one of the most

desired sports cars in the US. Japan's Big Three manufacturers - Toyota, Nissan and Honda - have targeted Europe, but destinations for British-made cars include Australia and Pacific Rim nations.

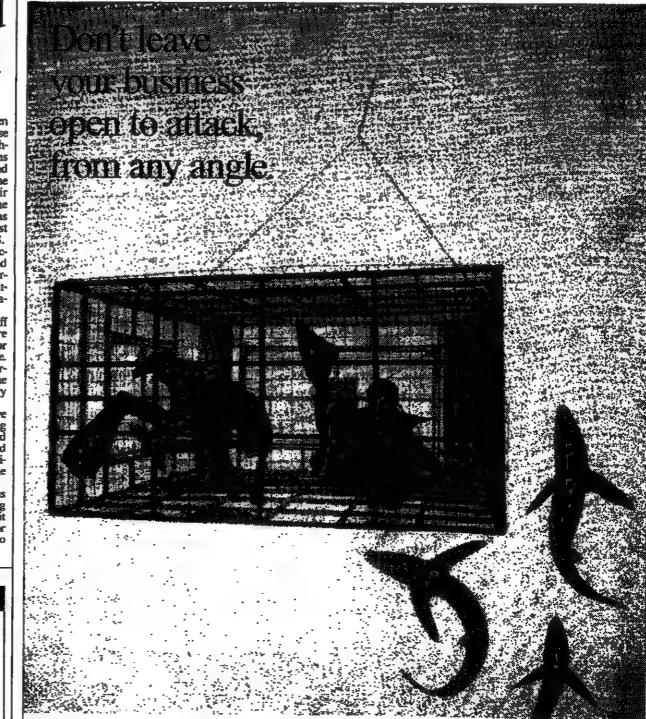
Garel Rhys, head of Cardiff Business School, said: "There are more cars being built for sale abroad than at any time. in terms of industrial regeneration, this is exactly what the country wants, with a recovery

led by export sales.

Dr Rhys said: "We have Japanese carmakers sending cars from Britain to Japan and companies such as Jaguar and Land Rover making significant strides in places like the

He added: "It is a success story which is largely unsung in the British economy, but it is happening and the motor industry is very important to the British economy."





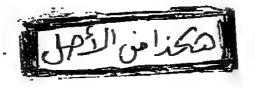
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Maybally



Pen:

Today we will learn a little more about Isa, the mysterious successor to Peps and Tessas. Tracy at the checkout will be acting as Isa's agent, since this new spending plan is to be on sale at the local supermarket. In his pre-Budget Report last week, the Chancellor of the Exchequer voiced his horror that around half the population have hardly any savings. Making Isa available alongside the ready meals and washing powder is part of the plan to change that statistic.

This is one more step in the radical restructuring of the distribution of financial services that is rapidly robbing the old bank brigade of any pretensions to superiority. Now, selling financial services is just like selling anything else. So perhaps there should be no surprise in the fact that GE Capital is looking increasingly likely to be the new owner of Private Patients Plan, the country's second largest pro-vider of private health insurance.

Als up pp.

PPH Alle

Minsure

The mighty GE is best known in the UK for the credit cards it operates on behalf of myriad of high street names. Perhaps the plan is to encourage people to pay for their insurance when they pay their monthly store card bills. The Government has made clear that the National Health Service will not be able to meet all our needs and so the concept of an element of private funding for healthcare will have to become as widely accepted as Isa

Fresh bill of health and wealth

herself is intended to be. This fact will not have escaped the ambitious chaps at GE, who, in PPP, will have seen a name that is well established and has had £50 million of advertising lavished upon it in recent years.

Profits of the business have not risen in line with that, since PPP has been sacrificing margin to keep its customers as newcomers have entered the healthcare market. But as the welfare state becomes increasingly dependent on private provision, the scope for growth could be enormous. Jack Welch, the formidable chairman of GE, is determined

that his company should grow rapidly in Europe and forking out around £600 million for PPP would hardly break his bank: European profits alone are now at the £1 billion level.

The group's interests have moved well beyond its original industrial roots, and now stretch from television and information technology to aerospace. In the UK, its activities already go well beyond the store cards and include leasing, venture capital and property. The attractions of PPP have not gone unnoticed by others, particularly insurers who have yet to make their first move into healthcare. But insiders are



putting the odds firmly in GE's favour and expect a deal within weeks. If successful, GE may be expected to use its new insurance operation to move rapidly into a wider range of financial services. Since the Government is looking

for private-sector partners, GE would not be slow to offer help. Tracy will have no difficulty in coping with the new order of financial services. Only the traditionalists will be left wondering where the business went.

Exchange is not fit for gentlemen

aving played down the idea that there was anything peculiar in its trading in top pharmaceutical shares on Friday. JP Morgan duly suspended two of its dealers over the process of the statement the matter on Monday. This distinguished house clearly has a problem on its hands. The worse

London Stock Exchange itself trouble was market-makers took and with Liffe, the futures market, which was as keen as the dominant Americans for the underlying equity market to

change its trading system.

A few stray sales of top stocks near the end of trading on Friday suddenly pushed the FTSE-100 share index down by nearly 1 per cent. It should be recalculated. But you do not need to rush to any judgment in this case to see its implications. Under the old trading system, a few marketmaking firms might be able to rig the index if their deadly rivals allowed them to. Now any smart aleck with access to the right

keyboard buttons can do it.
This unwelcome outbreak of democracy can be blamed on the lack of trading volume revealed by the move away from from the London system, under which market-makers had to display buying and selling prices and deal by phone at all times on those, or better, terms. The

a turn averaging 0.6 per cent in capital needed to fund their positions. Liffe also had reason to lear that market-makers could influence the 100-share index at crucial moments to help their

hedging positions in derivatives. Order-driven trading systems that matched real buyers and sellers should avoid both these drawbacks. But the Exchange's Sets system runs alongside market-making and accounts for little more than a third of trading. It has little liquidity either at the start or the end of the day. Early on, in particular, spreads can cost investors much more than they used to.

In these periods, trades in even the normally liquid top stocks can be pushed through at up to 20 per cent above or below what would have been the ruling price. Given the threats posed by the order-driven system, especially to private investors, the exchange

can hardly force all trades in FTSE stocks to go through and it would seem suicidal to extend Sets to smaller and therefore less liquid stocks. The humiliating alternative for this self-con-sciously "modern" market may be to shrink official trading back to gentlemen's hours, starting at 10 am and stopping at lunchrime on Friday for the weekend.

UK may yet suffer bout of Asian flu

The policy making waters become particularly treacherous when an economy may be nearing a turning point. Higher interest rates and a strong pound ought to have started to cause a slowdown in economic activity, according to conventional wisdom. But so far there has been precious little sign that the British consumer is anywhere near being blud-geoned into submission. This is the conundrum facing the Monetary Policy Committee as it meets tomorrow, amid speculation that its cosy unanimity on interest rates has begun to crack at last. In November, City pundits wrongly guessed that the MPC would refrain from raising rates because of the fallout from Asia in the London stock market. The Bank, mindful of the charge that easier money following the 1987 crash contribution in the late eighties ignored the stock mareighties, ignored the stock market, looked purely at the domestic economy and raised rates.

A month later, evidence on the British economy is finely balanced but Asia demands to be taken more seriously. This alone might be enough to give MPC doves enough ammunition to stave off an interest rate rise before Christmas. The fulcrum of the Asian crisis has moved from the relatively small economies of Thailand and Malaysia to the key economies of South Korea and Japan. Despite an IMF rescue package for one and positive noises from Tokyo about tackling its banking crisis, the threat of exported deflation has become a great deal more real.

Pots and kettles

JUST when the directors of Lonrho might have been hoping for a period of peace and quiet, Mohamed Al Fayed has come charging onto the scene again. His latest missive to all the Lonrho directors is a fine attempt at fuelling the feud with former Lonrho boss, Tiny Rowland, Al Fayed wants the Institute of Chartered Accountants to investigate Lourho's accounts. Some-how, pots and kettles come straight to mind.

Treatment withdrawn by Glaxo

The diabetes treatment withdrawn by Glaxo Wellcome after it was linked to six deaths was expected to have annual sales of about £250 million by the year 2000.

None of the 5,000 British diabetics who have used the drug since its UK launch two months ago has died from the severe kidney problems that troglitazone has caused in 147 patients in America and other countries. Glaxo Wellcome suggested that most of the problems had arisen in patients who had been taking the drug for at least three months.lt has advised those taking the drug, marketed

Troglitazone was li-censed from Sankyo, the Japanese company that discovered the compound. The drug was regarded as a significant advance because it was able to reduce diabetics' dependence on insulin.

Sankyo and Warner Lambert, its US marketing partner, launched the drug ast March. By the end o 670,000 patients had taken it. Glaxo Wellcome had the marketing rights for Europe, South Africa and Israel, but it had yet to start selling the drug out-side the UK.

Glaxo Welicome said that there was as yet no explanation why the severity of the liver problems failed to show up in clini-

Wm Hill sale

Brent Walker, the debtladen leisure group, will tomorrow complete the £700 million sale of Wil-liam Hill, its betting shop chain, to Nomura International enabling the company to be formally wound up. The disposal, which was announced in October, is expected to leave the group with a shortfall of about £400 million to £500 million, compared with its original £1.5 billion debt mountain. The banks are expected to appoint liquidators within two weeks.

Mayborn hit

SHARES of Mayborn, the florist products to fabric dves group, yesterday closed at a five-year low, down 50p to 1021p, after the group gave warning that an autumn slump at lackel, its baby food division, would push its profits below the £6.6 million expected for this year. Kevan Griffin has been dismissed as chief executive of the baby food arm and has agreed to a \$100.000 payoff although severance details are still heing debated.

ORLDCOVER

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Pension chiefs face punishment over mis-selling delay

By Anne Ashworth and Caroline Merrell

THE Personal Investment Authority (PIA), the investorprotection body, is to acquire extensive powers to punish directors and others considered responsible for the delays in settling compensation for victims of pension mis-selling. New rules will make life

insurance salesmen and financial advisers individually responsible for their actions, making them subject to reprimands, fines and barrishment from the industry for breaches of investor-protection laws. Last month Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the

Treasury and the minister in charge of the pensions mis-selling review, said she wished to bar from the industry senior managers guilty of mis-selling. In a letter sent to PIA mem-

ber firms yesterday, Collette Bowe, the PIA chief executive, wrote: "Experience has shown that it is essential for a firm's

top management to commit itself to the review process and to make sure that this process is conducted on a timely basis and in an efficient manner." The PIA is to introduce individual registration next year,

obliging 80,000 directors and employees to apply for contracts to work in the investment business. At present, only PIA member firms must be authorised, not their workers. Observers believe that some applicants will inevitably fail to win registration contracts, obliging them to seek work in other fields and advancing the cleanup of the industry. Directors and executives of life offices. banks, independent financial advisers networks and firms with more than 26 advisers must have individual registra-

tion by May 18. The remainder must register by October 1. Prudential, which has the most mis-selling cases, yester-

day refused to say whether it had missed a second deadline for sorting out priority compensation cases. A spokesman said: "We have submitted our figures to the regulator, which will report in due course." Prudential is regulated by the Securities and Investments Board, and will not be fined for pensions misdemeanours.

Windsor Life, part of the Life Assurance Holding Company, yesterday, said that it had met, five weeks ahead of schedule, the Treasury target for solving 90 per cent of its priority cases.

The Council of Mortgage

Lenders yesterday took its industry closer to full selfregulation as it extended a voluntary code of practice to 50,000 brokers selling home loans to the public. From April, they will have to disclose commission from lenders and their relationship with lenders.

Charge of £524,000 at Jennings BY DOMINIC WALSH

JENNINGS BROTHERS. the brewer and pub operator listed on the Alternative investment Market, has taken a charge of £524,000 against its 1997 results after the collapse of negotiations to buy a rival pub company.

Trevor Green, managing director, declined to name the company, but M&C Reidentifies it as the Devonshire Pub Company.

In the year to September 30, Jennings Brothers re-ported a 35 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £2.01 million, excluding exceptionals. on turnover 12 per cent ahead at £18.29 million.

Earnings per share were 20.8p (16.3p). A final dividend of 4.75p, payable on February 13, makes 7.75p.

First-half profits arrive at Prism

By Fraser Nelson

LONDON commuters helped Prism Rail to return its first profit at the halfway stage, after a 5 per cent increase in passengers and a £2.7 million bonus from the franchising

The company, which runs the London to Southend or LTS "misery line" and the Liverpool to London WAGN line, lifted its average punctuality rate by 30 per cent in the six months to October 11, winning the extra

payment on top of the £90 million subsidy that Its two London franchises were the best performers in the group, delivering sales growth of 10 per cent —

commuter traffic. Prism's two Welsh franchises, Cardiff Railways and

attributed to the

within two years.

Prism is now on course to pay a total dividend of 1/0 to the year. This would net El.27 million for the six former bus operators who set up the

all passenger revenue rose 9

This left a pre-tax profit of

£4.84 million (£549,000 loss)

and a maiden interim divi-

Prism has merged the of-

fices for the Welsh franchises.

closing the Swindon office. Its

£20 million investment pro-

gramme saw new ticket barri-ers put up at Barking station.

The company plans to fit these

in every one of its 25 stations

per cent to £135 million.

dend of 5p a share.

Approaches made to Zetters

By DOMINIC WALSH

their sales by around 7 per ZETTERS, the pools, bingo and spot-the-hall group, yes-After a 2.6 per cent increase terday said it had received "a in rail fares, and an extra number of approaches" in the wake of its strategy review. At the annual meeting, in £800,000 from reducing the number of fare dodgers, over-

October, Paul Zetter, chairman, indicated that the company was seeking to "introduce new senior management and, possibly, new leisure assets", which analysts interpreted as a for sale sign. Yesterday, he said: "Whilst some [of the approaches] may prove to be of interest, it is too early to expand upon them."

Zetters more than doubled pre-tax profits, to £1.05 million, in the half year to September 30 on turnover up to per cent. to £8.77 million. tarnings per snare were 10.0 (5.1p). The interim dividend. due on March 4, is 5.5p (5.0p). Bingo made a £642,000 profit on turnover of £2.2 million.



Bath Press, which raised pretax profits from £1.6 million to [3 million in the six months to September 30 on sales up 57 per cent, at £34 million. Earnings rose 22 per cent to 1.04p, with the half-year dividend up from 0.16p to 0.19p. Mr Hill and the board said they were confident of a successful outcome to the current year. Operating margins rose from 9.2 per cent to 10 per cent.

Dialog to offer free services to investors

DIALOG CORPORATION, the online information company, is to armchair investors through a deal with Institutional Investor International (III), the Website оретапот.

The venture, which was planned before MAID and Knight-Ridder Information merged to become Dialog, will give III's 100,000 Internet users free access to headlines and summaries from 4,000 THEWS STATUTES.

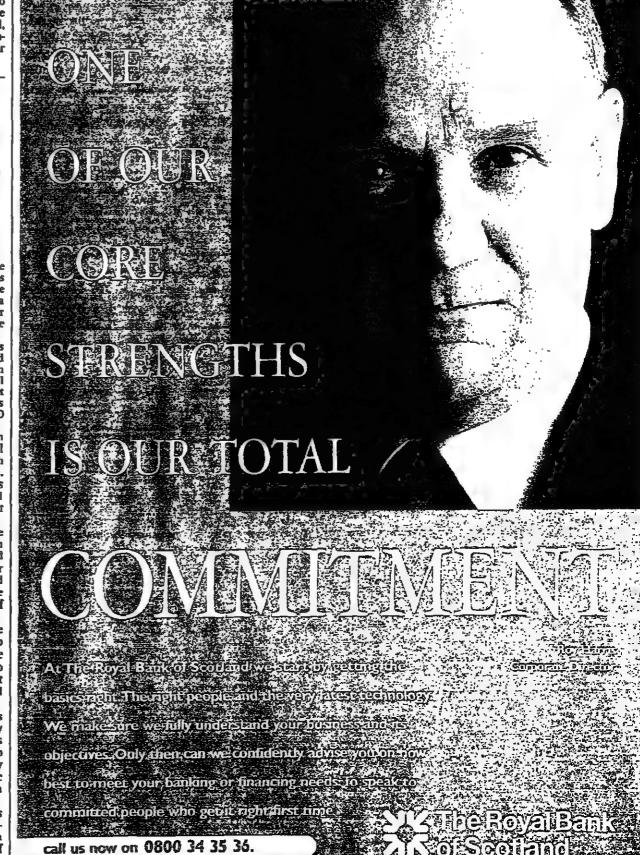
The limited service, which vill include share prices, will be freely available through Internet site, www.iii.co.uk. Full articles will be available for a £1 charge, with the proceeds split between the two companies. From February, the Website

will offer real-time prices from London, New York and Nasdaq, fuelling a free sector which analysts say could challenge the lower end of the market held by the likes of Bloomberg and Reuters.

The enlarged Website should be complete within two weeks, when it will become the first service in the world to combine information about pensions, life insurance and stock market prices. Dialog, which draws its

customers almost exclusively from large institutions, hopes small-time investors who may not be willing to pay the basic £6,000 arinual subscription for its full service. MAID's new subscriptions

tailed off while it was discussing the merger, leading to a third-quarter pre-tax loss of E992,000 (£2.42 million loss), it said yesterday. Sales were E7.37 million (E5.18 million). The loss for the quarter was 0.33p (2.62p loss) per share.



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MICHAEL CLARK

Stock Market Writer

Drugs rally papers over cracks in new system

SHARE prices more than clawed back the losses gener-ated by Friday's manipulated sell-off, helped by a steady performance overnight in the Far East and strong opening gains on Wall Street.

Drug shares, which had been particularly badly affected by Friday's events, enjoyed a technical rally covering over any trace of the dumping of stock by two traders at JP Morgan. They had apparently attempted to drive the cash market sharply lower in an effort to capitalise on an overthe-counter option in FTSE 100 index stocks. Their plan almost succeeded, but was foiled by the 20 per cent limit built into price movements in the new Sets trading system. The apparent ease with which two traders appeared to be able to manipulate the market will force the Stock Exchange to take another close look at the computerised trading system, which matches buyer with seller but has been plagued by problems and controversy since its introduc-

tion in October. The problem was highlighted yesterday by trading in Marks & Spencer, up 21p at 630p with just two million shares changing hands. The low level of turnover meant the spread bid and offer was a massive 12p. It is this widening of the spread that causes the sort of volatility that many brokers have come to dread.

In thin trading the FTSE 100 index managed to sport a rise of 100 points, supported by a 155-point leap in the Dow Jones industrial average. The index closed 90.0 up at 4.921.8, but total turnover was less than 600 million shares.

Bass climbed 14p to 864p ahead of full-year figures to morrow amid mounting speeulation that the figures may also coincide with the announcement of the sale of its Gala bingo clubs. Pre-tax profits are expected at around £725 million, compared with £674 million last time.

Schroders rebounded with a jump of 64p to £17.70, with the non-voting 55p firmer at £17.30 it was one of those companies caught up in Friday's sell-off by JP Murgan. views of the bid approach lifted UDO Holdings 2212p to 18212p. The reprographics sergroup says it has would value it at no more than £47 million, or 210p a share. In August the group



Shares in Manchester United rose 4p on prospects

returned £10 million to shareholders by way of a share

Morris Ashby confirmed it has also received a bid approach worth at least 400p a share. The price jumped 45p to 3901:p. valuing the company at £48 million.

A bid approach was good news for Zetters. 812p better at 125p. The football pools group says it had received a number

of approaches since October, after outlining plans to introduce fresh management and new leisure assets. The company unveiled a doubling of half-year profits.

Manchester United finished to better at 1500 after completion of its share split. Odds on the Premier League side retaining the title have shortened with the bookmakers after its thumping of rival

DRUG SHARES RECOVER FROM FRIDAY'S HANGOVER Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov

THE fiasco of Friday's late sell-off of drug shares that sent the index tumbling more tha 30 points in the last ten minutes of trading is now being investigated by the Stock Exchange. Last night. JP Morgan, the US securities house, responsible for the sale and input of "rogue prices" suspended two traders.

Fortunately, drug shares were showing few signs of the scars left by Friday's sell-off. Glaxo Wellcome bounced back with a jump of 40p, to £13.40, despite suspending its new diabebecause of serious side affects. SmithKline Beecham added 48p at 598p. Zeneca took the chance to

repair the damage with a positive visit by brokers to its research and development centre in Macclesfield. Re-assuring recent City fears about its product pipeline, Zeneca told the brokers it had almost 90 different development projects on the go at the moment. This included ways of improving existing

Zeneca has seen its price drop from a peak of £22.65

Blacburn Rovers at the week-
end and the home defeat for
Arsenal. Retention of the title
will result in automatic entry for the club in the money-
spinning European Cham-
pions League.

Former National Hunt jock ey Rory McGrath's attempt a icking a winner at the Newbury meeting over the weekend was doomed to failure, but it looks as though he might have more success backing H Young Holdings, the company where he is chief executive. Pre-tax profits grew 62 per cent to £4,25 million last year with SBC Warburg Dilion Read, the company's own broker, upgrading its profit forecast for the current year to almost £5 million. The shares responded with a rise of 512p

Range Cooker enjoyed a modest premium on its AIM debut after placing at 5p. The Blackpool company's shares end the day at 614p. a premi-

um of l'4p.
Taylor Nelson AGB, the subject of a recent merger to form the fourth-largest market research organisation, firmed ³4p to 75p in response to a buy" note from Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker. It is expecting "excellent" margin improvement and revenue growth.

A profits warning and the subsequent sacking of its man-aging director left Mayborn Group down 50p at 10212p. GILT-EDGED: Bond prices closed mixed in thin trading, having made a slow start in line with other European markets.

Investors shrugged off the latest manufacturing output and money supply numbers, but appeared tense ahead of this week's meeting of the Bank of England independent Monetary Policy Committee

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt finished £16 lower at £11934 in thin Among conventional issues,

Treasury 8 per cent 2021 was five ticks lower at £1195 to. while at the shorter end Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was unchanged at £1007s.

□ NEW YORK: Blue chips were sharply higher at midday yesterday, with the Dow

stability returned to Japanese

and European stocks amid

confirmation of tame, domes-

tic inflation, analysts said.

	MAJOR INDICES
2	New York (midday): Dow Jones
	Tokyo: Nikkei Average 17007.59 (+371.33)
	Hong Kong: Hang Seng 10750.88 (-223.96)
	Amsterdam: AEX Index
	Sydney: 2513.4 (48.3)
	Frankfurt: 4068.05 (+118.91)
	Singapore: 1694.19 (+33.60)
r	Brussels: General
e y	Paris: CAC-40
-	Zurich: SRA Gen 1207.7 (+16.0)
- 1	Londore
ŧ	FT 30 3182.2 (+46.6)
e	FTSE 100 4921.8 (~90.0)
e	FTSE 250
-	FTSE Eurotrack 100 2609.68 (+43.23)
e	FTSE All-Share
s	FTSE Non Financials _ 2357.45 (+31.28)
	FISE Fixed Interest

RPI 159.5 Oct (3.7%) Jan 1987=100 RPIX 157.9 Oct (2.8%) Jan 1987=100 RECENT ISSUES Advance UK Tst **BCH Group**

Bank of England official close (4)

German Mark -

... 100.33 (-0.05)

1.6847 (+0.0002) 2.9942 (+0.0231)

Capital Opps Trust Cresco International 1531: Firmg Geared Units 7734 Foresight Tech Wts 30 Foresight Tech 100 Minorplanet Systems 545 Nottingham Forest Range Cooker

RIGHTS ISSUES

MAJOR CHANGES

Green Prop n/p (350) 32

Savoy Asset Mingmi 11312

Seascope Shipping 255

Workplace Tech

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RISES:	
Smithkine	598n (±48
Scotla	
BR Land	
Photobition	
Low & Bonar	
Br Airways	
Broken Hill	
Blue Circle	353p (+13
Cres I No. P. Dress	2020 (±14)
Abbey Nati	. 979o (+34
Stand Chart	681p (+231a
Marks Spencer	. 630a (+21)
Boots	
Andrew Sykes	
Reckitt Colm	
Carlton Comm	
Cadbury-Schw	
Royal & Sun Al	
Kingfisher	
GUS	

FALLS: Celitech

Peptide Thera

Closing Prices Page 32

. 272°sp (-16p) ... 586p (-14p)

TEMPUS.

Oiling the price wheel

STRANGE as it may seem, Saudi Arabia is not that keen on a high oil price. The Kingdom was the instigator of last weekend's 10 per cent hike in the Opec production quota to 27.5 million barrels per day and its more hawkish fellow members, such as Iran, were none too pleased. The Saudis will quickly be able to boost their output to 8.8 million bpd and, assuming continued overproduction from Nigerian and Venezuela, total Opec output next year could reach 28.5 mbpd compared with a forecast call on Opec of 27.4 mbpd.

That suggests a lot of spare oil washing about in the system. Of course, the Saudis may have reason to believe that Iraq will scrap the oil-for-food agreement, removing a million barrels from the equation. However, they are also likely to be playing a longer game. Saudi Arabia accurately forecast that non-Opec

far short of IEA predictions of 2 million bod. They may again be predicting slower growth in the North Sea and Gulf of Mexico but they will also be aware that a high oil price stimulates demand for non-Opec crude. Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states can produce oil more cheaply than anyone and the main effect of \$20-plus oil is to make the deep-water projects in the North Sea more attractive. Moreover, the Saudis are getting distinctly nervous about green agitation to reduce carbon emissions. A high oil price provides more ammunition for those who argue for reduced consumption of hydrocarbons. This bodes ill for highly geared oil producers such as Enterprise Oil. With slowing growth in production, they cannot afford a weak oil price as well.

Scot & N'castle

WEAK trading from Greenalis and Wolverhampton & Dudley reminded the market that running pubs can be a tricky business, but that was no reason to doubt Scottish & Newcastle.

After a good set of annual results in July, the company's shares advanced to 766 p, but by last month the stock was back at 619p. The market failed to take note that Greenalls and W&D rely heavily on regions where trading has been

The troubles at Greenalls stemmed from underinvestment at a time when competitors were throwing cash at new pub concepts. W&D spent lots of money, but spent it badly. Neither

charge can be levelled at S&N, which is putting re-sources into brands such as

double-digit volume growth. Rat & Parrot and Chef & Brewer and seeing good

It also has better coverage, such that more buoyant trading in the south has more than made up for slower

growth elsewhere. Backing big brands was key to the brewing side. where Kronenbourg, FosEven John Smith's chipped in a 13 per cent rise in a declining ale market. In the circumstances, conHow the banker

tinuing problems with Center Pares failed to spoil the party. S&N's shares regained some lost ground, closing up 19½p to 714½p, and there should be more to



Imperial

IMPERIAL TOBACCO'S Achilles' heel is its core market; the company is heavily dependent on the UK, where the decline in smoking accelerated last year. After the embarrassing Ecclestone affair, the Labour Government is unlikely to let up on an industry that shrunk 5 per cent last year. Imperial has UK sales of

E3.5 billion, but £2.9 billion was handed over to an ungrateful Government in tax-es. The latest duty rise increased the price of a packet of 20 Embassy cigarettes to £3.34. Little wonder, then, that budget brands are the fastest-growing segment. making up 15 per cent of the total. But for all the efficiency of its UK plant, Imperial does believe it can make sensible returns in this area. Unfortunately, Imperial

and was slow moving into the emerging markets of the

where BAT has made inroads. However, in spite of severe problems in France and South Africa, the international business raised its contribution 13 per cent to £79 million. Imperial's shareholders are spared exposure to the huge litigation liabilities that dog the US tobacco industry, but that has not spared it from share price volatility. At 395p, the main attraction of the shares

would seem to be the net

dividend yield of 5.4 per cent.

Prism Rail

AGGRESSIVE bids by Prism for franchises seem to be paying off, with 9 per cent growth in passenger revenues. As a London operator, Prism is getting a hefty boost from Underground-style ticket barriers that catch faredodgers, but the company's best asset is commuters and increased traffic from rising employment levels in the

ly dictated by the number of suits climbing on board on the 0802 to Fenchurch Street - so much so that in 1990 the whole network needed a subsidy of only £700 million.

However, rolling stock companies seem to be the main targets for government crackdown, and Prism can only benefit if these glorified rent collectors are forced to cut margins. As one of the largest train operators with seven more years of franchise to go, Prism's shares look undeservedly cheap at some 8.4 times forward earnings.

However, there must be question marks over the long-term growth in passenger revenues. The recent sourt in revenue has more to do with removing the ineffi-ciencies of British Rail than Prism's brilliant marketing. As growth in employment slows, Prism will have to invest to make revenue gains, a more difficult task than getting people to pay for tickets.

WALL STREET

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1055-1053 Sep 1152-1150	W Texas intermediate (Feb) 19.05 -0.25	Jul 80.65 Sep 80
ep		Scp
ec 1099-1097 Volume: 4632	PRODUCTS (\$/ MIT)	Volume: 774 Volume:
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ay 317.4-17.5 May 317.0-07.0	Dec 103.75-04.00 Mar . 105.00-65.25	LIFFE BIFFEX IGNI Lid \$10/60
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DAY DELLER

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TransTec's focus on aerospace led to a contract to supply airframe parts for Tornados The company has also enjoyed strong relationships with car companies such as BMW How the Paymaster General banked a personal fortune

Chris Ayres profiles the minister who made a mint from business and is being taxed by controversy

to suspect that

to think all

a man who can afford to work for nothing as the Paymaster same time own luxury homes in Tuscany, Cannes and Park Lane in London, Geoffrey Robinson's income looks remarkably modes:

Most of the 59-year-old's wealth appears to come from his substantial shareholding in TransTec, the £175 million engineering company that he founded to years ago. His 7.2 per cent stake in the company is now worth more than £30 million. Mr Robinson - who received an interim dividend payment of £258,400 from TransTech last month - earns a salary of just £43,860 as an MP. That would hardly sustain

the lifestyle that he now enjoys. His expen-6 The City is right sive hobbies – which inmost politicians clude collectare fools, but wrong Elena, an

Italian-born opera singer — may engender a of fresh ideas and innovations little envy among his more over a wide spread of challenged financially colleagues

Given Mr Robinson's background, the current controversy over the £12 million offshore tax-haven trust fund of which he is a beneficiary is unlikely to give him sleepless nights.

After all, he has become. numbed to accusations of champagne socialism during his career, and has resigned himself to being one of only a few Labour politicians with a business background — rather than teaching, law or trade unionism. He is also used to dining with the sharks, having pulled off a multimillion pound deal with the late Robert Maxwell six years ago.

Mr Robinson's career as a self-made tycoon began in 1981 when he founded TransTec. having gaining several years' experience in senior positions in the automotive industry. In the 1970s, he had been financial controller at British Leyland. and at the age of 35 became the precocious chief executive of

Jaguar Cars. His double life as a politician began several years earlier when he worked as a researcher for the Labour Party and for Harold Wilson's Industrial Reorganisation Corporation. He finally became an MP - for Coventry North West - in

TransTec was at first called Transfer Technology Group, with Mr Robinson borrowing an estimated £100,000 from Joska Bourgeois — a family friend and a wealthy Belgian importer of Jaguar cars — to help to establish the business. Madame Bourgeois, who died three years ago, later set up the offshore trust fund that has caused the Government such a headachie.

The original aim of Transfer Technology Group was to translate the best available academic research into practi-

cal engineering applicaparticular emphasis on

industries. During the 1980s, as the business grew, Mr Robinson simultaneously held frontbench positions in Opposition for Science, Trade and Indus-try, and Regional Affairs. He was said to spend most of his days in a chauffeur-driven Jaguar surrounded by three mobile telephones, travelling between his company office and the House of Commons.

In the early 1990s Mr Robinson's business began to look vulnerable, as it was heavily reliant on the struggling Euro-pean car market. Most companies were also suffering from the effects of recession.

However, Mr Robinson again demonstrated shrewd business judgment, making a string of successful acquisitions in the UK and overseas, while introducing a wider range of

airframe products for Tornados, and to win contracts with Bosch, Daewoo, General Motors and Mercedes-Benz. The automotive side of the business developed strong relationships with BMW and Rover, while Sony and Epson became major customers at its plastic and glomerate chaired by Robert Maxwell, the publishing ty-coon. In 1991 Transfer Technolmillion in 1988 to £9.5 million in

As a young MP Geoffrey Robinson managed to find the time for politics and business

ogy staged a reverse takeover of Central, with Mr Maxwell selling his 27 per cent stake in the business back to the company only months before his death. Soon afterwards the

tries. Profits jumped from El

The City was put off the company by the level of control that Mr Robinson had over the business — although such a dominant boss was not unusual for a company of TransTec's and its association with

ingly unfashionable. Eventually, TransTec released a profits warning, and Mr Robinson said that he would split his roles as chief executive Richard Carr, formerly of Tomkins, was appointed chief executive in November 1994 and began a fundamental reorganisation of the group, taking on Peter Summerfield

more than halving in value to 45p from 1993 to 1994, as City

analysis continued to produce

negative research and the engi-

neering sector became increas-

and Tony Kirkman - both rivals for his job and heavy-weights in the engineering sector - as divisional managing directors. Almost at once the business began to improve, and the share price started to recover. At 9812 p it is more than double its value in 1995. Most analysts are now en-

thusiastic about the company. One says: "TransTec has had its pluses and minuses, but under its present management it's gone into its prosperous phase. The real improvements came in 1995 with Richard Carr. They reduced the cost base in key areas and brought in new elements of control which have stood them in good

Another added: "We've only followed it since Richard Carr armved and Geomey Kopinson began to take a back seat. He really isn't involved in the dayto-day business now. I would say the company really had a turning point in 1995."

Although Mr Robinson is still a substantial shareholder in TransTec, he resigned from the board as a non-executive director when the Labour came to power to concentrate on his duties as Paymaster General. with a focus on public and private partnerships.

As TransTec's non-executive chairman, Mr Robinson earned only £41,000, but recrived a hefty E74,000 pension contribution. If his political career should come to an end tomorrow, it is unlikely that he would miss his MPs salary The 30.4 million shares that he owns will almost guarantee him large regular payments in dividends, as will the income carned by his trust, and cash from the penison that he paid into when he was a company director. His status as

MARKETING

Selling by phone can put a good name on the line

ompanies are taking unnecessary risks as they rush to cash in on a growing acceptance by the UK public of doing business over the phone.

Eager to emulate the success of First Direct and Direct Line, businesses are opening call centres and free phone numbers at an alarming rate. But some are learning to their cost that failure to plan their telemarketing accurately can actually lose business,

Engaged tones, poorly trained staff and an inadequate number of operators continue to blight efforts fully to exploit a field that is set to grow 45 per cent over the next two years.

More significantly, bad telemarketing can undo all the hard work and money a company has invested in customer service and building its brand.

Even companies such as Tesco have recently come unstuck, its new banking operation was swamped by calls to its helplines as customers rushed to open an account. The demand was so great that Tesco was forced to open another call centre and offer compensation to frustrated customers.

And, last week, Air Miles, the company offering travel incentives in exchange for points gained on loyalty schemes, also fell victim to an onslaught on its phone system. Although experienced in this field, it was caught out and forced to open another call centre and to apologise to 2.5 million

So why are companies still getting it wrong? Industry observers point to a dearth of skilled managers to run call centres and unwillingness by firms to invest in adequate training for staff

in how to handle callers.

But, according to Martin Shields, vice-chairman of Sitel, regarded as the largest supplier of call centre servthe nub of the lies in the attitude of many companies towards telemarketing. "The issue of call handling isn't given enough consideration when a campaign is planned — it's often bolted on at the end." he said. "The bulk of the money is

spent on the promotion." Companies consistently fail to forecast how many calls a telemarketing initiative will prompt. Whether it is a promotion, a directresponse television commercial a flyer or a customer helpline, an accurate forecast is necessary if sales are to be maximised. Failure to fore-

disaster. Tales of sales directors diverting telephone numbers to a mobile phone or an answering machine only to be swamped by calls are extreme examples of

what can go wrong.

Telemarketing does not allow second chances. Research by The Henley Centre, the consumer consultancy, shows that as a re-sult of a single hadly handled call, 68 per cent of callers to a company would prefer not to do business with it again. More importantly. 62 per cent said that they would seek another

company to buy from. Companies are gambling with customer loyalty, says Neil Taylor, marketing director of BT Connections in Business, which handles telemarketing for 30 blg UK clients. "You're putting the relationship with your customers on the line," he said. "If you get it right, then it can strengthen that relationship and increase their loyalty. But get it wrong, and you're in trouble."

At £1 million, call centres are out of the reach of all but the richest companies. Although most business-tobusiness marketers choose to handle calls in-house, mainly because volumes are low and a high level of product knowledge is needed many companies are choosing to contract an agency to handle call recep-

tion and fulfilment Mike Tully, of the Direct Marketing Association, says: "For a one-off campaign, lt makes sense to look at outsourcing because your learning curve would be so steep that it'd only be towards the end of the campaign that you'd be begining to learn all the techniques.

n-house call centres can. however, help a company to maintain that all-important one-to-one dialogue with clients. Thomas Cook Durect, the telemarke ing arm of the travel agent, sees them as vital for gather ing information on customers and building relat-

ionships with them. John Morris, its operations manager, says: "We're able to identify, segment and then target people who frequently book a skiing holiday and make sure we have something that they want. It beats going into the high street and being confronted with so many choices, many of which are unsuitable for you."

JULIAN LEE

rubber division, making TransTec's largest individual products that took the compamerged entity shortened its housings for television sets and name to TransTec. Mr Maxwell. The share price shareholder should allow him ny's emphasis away from the TransTec suffered in the automotive industry. At the consumer electronic was also hit when details to live for may years to come emerged of personal loans of up to \$1 million (E590,000) that Mr Robinson had made to time the Daily Mail said: "The early 1990s from the so-called the lifestyle to which he has During the late 1980s Mr "Max Factor", even though it become accustomed, with or City is right to suspect that was growing at a furious rate, without his position in the Robinson had also become a most politicians are fools, but producing goods for everything from the aerospace to oil, food companies later bought by Government -- something that director of Central and wrong to think all must be." could not be said for many The company's manufactur-Sheerwood, a publicly quoted TransTec. The company's and pharmaceuticals indusing division went on to supply industrial and property concans are trying to dominate the scene. corn for the London Film Commisand the Europeans are trying to catch sion, launched to attract film makers them up, and a lot of their UK fran-

chise is disappearing as a result,"

says Hall. "Some of the companies that DMG looks after are not getting the service that they used to." The differing woes of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, NatWest Markets and Ham-

bros only make this worse. "There's

Accountable

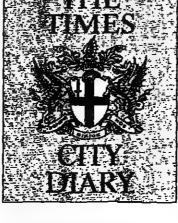
A STRANGE shyness seems to have gripped Geoffrey Robinson, the millionaire who so selflessly toils as our Paymaster General. Robinson must by now be wondering if the rewards of high office are worth the pain, and he has been hugely difficult to rie down since Friday. A colleague wondered then whether he would be attending today's launch for the individual savings account, the re-placement for the Pep. On Friday the Treasury would not say. The question became rather more pressing after the weekend, what with Guernsey Lax havens and mysterious Belgian multi-millionairesses. Again, the Treasury stone-walled.



Last night the answer arrived. Yes. Robinson will be on hand to launch the account, hailed as "the people's Pep", as opposed to the Martian's Pep and the budgerigar's Pep. I suppose. His sudden notoriety has at least secured a better attendance for today's event than the last time the Paymaster General held a full press conference, in the summer to relaunch the Private Finance Initiative. When only two journalists turned up. I only hope the questioning will not dwell too heavily on Robinson's own individual savings accounts.

• THE new finance director of Britax has experience in the motor trade beyond the dreams of his fellow directors at the components group. Mark Ellsmore joins from TI Group in the new year. A while back, in time for her 18th birthday, he bought his daughter Victoria a 1960 Morris Traveller in need of some work. As it turned out, a new frame, engine, gear-box and other essentials. The car was indeed ready in time for the girl's birthday — her 24th.

Full circle A NEAT symmetry lies behind the arrival at Singer & Friedlander of Graham Hall as a director of corporate finance from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. Hall had a client at DMG



called Lionheart, which makes bathroom items. Lionheart was, to put it bluntly, too small for DMG to bother with, and Hall suggested the company went to Singer & Friedlander. Hall kept in contact with his old client and heard great things of one Rory Johnstone, who took over his job advising Lionheart. He was so impressed that he poached Johnstone on behalf of DMG. Now the wheel has turned all the

way, and Hall has himself been poached by Singer & Friedlander. He says his move to a much smaller bank reflects a growing disenchantment at the way corporate finance is heading at the medium-sized merchant banks, influenced as they are by Merrill Lynch. Goldman Sachs and their ilk, the huge, pan-global packages they offer and their concentration on big clients. "The Ameri-

less competition in the middle market sector than there used to be." ON THE day that some largely bogus research claims that three out of four motorists would support a re-duction in the legal drink-drive limit, news reaches me of an ingenious way round the problem of getting home after a night in the pub from an estate in Oxfordshire. Today is the launch of the prospectus for a neighbourhood pub. The funds raised from the sale of shares in a

public limited company to the 1.250 residents on the West Witney estate will be used to buy a plot of land and build the pub. The idea is that if enough of them invest in the scheme they will have a vested interest in visiting it, so ensuring its economic success. Best wishes to this mutual, selfhelp approach, but I have a feeling it is a little more difficult than it looks.

In the frame

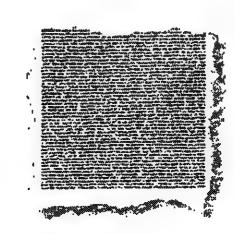
THE City Corporation has become frustrated in its honest broker attempts to interest City capital in the British film industry. The City fathers stumped up £25,000 seed-

to the capital as a whole, only to find that no one else can be bothered to support it. They now hope their efforts will at least persuade Hollywood to use the Square Mile as the location for future blockbusters. This might seem highly laudable, except no one has quite explained why it is a good thing, in economic terms or otherwise. Do we really want the streets clogged with all the clutter that film crews bring in their train, not to mention Napoleonic film directors, fleets of crashing, burning vehicles and spoilt super-egos sulking in their trailers? I only ask.

MARTIN WALLER



An everyday image in the City? Maybe -- if film-makers roll in



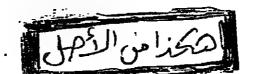
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L that there is no doubt.

Sviatoslav Richter always seemed the darkest of spirits: a

colossus who made no conces-

sions, tolerated no compro-

mise, sought no easy fame,

exuded no spurious charm.

indulged in no razzle-dazzle.

Audiences at his recitals some-

times felt like intruders into

private meditation. No jour-

nalist came close to piercing

the granite façade that he

And his interpretations, pro-

tean in their variety, sent out

contradictory signals. He

snarl like a tiger tearing at its

prey, or he could withdraw.

sphinx-like, behind an impen-

Richter threw down the

ultimate challenge: follow me.

and [will lead you through caverns measureless to man.

Easy listening he never pro-

vided. Yet when he died last August the tributes were

unanimous. Here was a

pianist to be ranked with the

greatest of the century.

Total amount payable £ .

etrable veil of introspection.

The Times's Christmas CD offer: three unreleased

Some of the mystique sur-rounding him can be easily explained. His appearance,

massive and stone-faced, was dauntingly sinister. He some-

times didn't turn up to con-certs, and when he did he often

gave the impression of being

distressed by appearing in public. "We live in an age of

voyeurs and nothing is more

fatal for music," he said, by

way of enigmatic explanation

for his decision to play recitals

illuminated only by a small

Richter: keyboard giant

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Homage to a legend

peered through the dark at

from an early horror film. For Western audiences, too,

there was added mystery in

the fact that he was known

only by reputation until 1960. Born in the Ukraine in 1915, he

was a repetiteur at the Odessa

Opera at the age of 15. Later he

studied in Moscow with Heinrich Neuhaus, who made

the famous remark that de-

fined Richter's supreme gift:

he had the ability, Neuhaus said, to play epic music as if "it seemed to lie before him like

an immense landscape, seen with incredible clarity as if

with the eyes of a great hawk".

Shortly afterwards Richter experienced the brutality of

the Soviet system. His father

fell victim to a Stalinist purge:

his mother fled to New York,

not to see her son again for 20 years. Richter himself was

One may guess how all this

shaped his musicmaking. But

Richter never wore his person-

al history like a badge, and much of his playing - particu-larly in Bach, Mozart and

Beethoven - had a classical

restraint. The three CDs that

we offer here - recorded at

Festival Hall recitals in 1979

and at Aldeburgh in 1966 give a wonderful idea of his

magisterial style.
The first (TN101) is all

Schubert: the Sonatas D575,

Dó25 and Dó64. Richter

revolutionised performance of

Schubert's piano music, re-

vealing its majestic sweep.

That can be heard, too, on the

second disc (TN102), which includes the tragic A Minor

Sonata, D784, the Hutten-

brenner Variations, and Schu-

The final CD (TN 103) shows

Richter's huge range. Here is Mozart's Sonata in G,

Tchaikovsky's The Seasons,

Rachmaninov's Etudes

Tableax, Scriabin's Black

Mass Sonata and Prokofiev's

Sonata No 4. It's a programme

that would make most pianists

blanch. Richter delivers it with

astonishing intellectual and

All these recordings, from BBC Radio 3's archives, were

approved by Richter before he

died. None has been released

before. They are testaments to

one of the most compelling

musical minds of our time.

technical power.

mann's Fantasiestücke.

confined to the Soviet bloc.

what seemed to be a ghoul

Star wars made simple **CLASSICAL RECORDS: Richard Morrison introduces**

Rosenthal meets recitals by the great Russian pianist Sviatoslav Richter Ian McDiarmid table-lamp, so that audiences

master of the

Daniel

Almeida and the Universe

trange business, ask-ing Darth Vader's boss about the finer points of subsidised theatre. As an actor, his face hidden beneath four hours of make-up, Ian McDiarmid was Return of the Jedi's demonic Emperor Palatine, a role to which he returns in the forthcoming Star Wars prequel. As joint artistic director of the Almeida Theatre in Islington, he shares the helm at one of the country's most important venues. Hence the need for questions about lottery fund-

ing, corporate sponsorship and the Death Star. First, however, comes the Almeida's Russian December, Part One of this double whammy requires McDiarmid to shake and howl as the mayor in The Government Inspector, directed by the other half of the top brass, Jonathan Kent.

Gogol's classic 1842 comedy about Khlestakov (Tom Hollander), the opportunistic clerk who fleeces the corrupt burghers of a remote town by allowing them to mistake him for a sleaze-hunter from St Petersburg, has been rendered into broad Scots in a hilarious translation by John Byrne, author of Tutti Frutti.

"Jonathan and I felt the play's provincial character would work well in Scots," explains McDiarmid, as mildmannered as Gogol's mayor is irascible. "John's writing has a wonderful vulgarity, and vulgarity is a great asset because the play is not psychologically dense: there is no subtext to these wild characters."

The Government Inspector received its second production at the Maly Theatre, Moscow, which brings us to Part Two of the double bill. Last April, after a sell-out run of Ivanov in Islington, Ralph Fiennes (the eponymous hero), McDiarmid (the insufferable bore, Kosykh) and the rest of Kent's cast gave four performances at the Maly the first time Chekhov's play had been staged in Eng-

lish on his home turf. At the beginning of Ivanov

Ian McDiarmid: Sunday's Channel 4 documentary follows him and Ivanov to Moscow

Rigg (both 1992) and last year's

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? with Rigg and David

Suchet, were also revivals

(newly translated if a transla-

tion was required) of works by

major dramatists. Using a

phrase that becomes something of a refrain, McDiarmid

insists these triumphs are

absolutely passionate about.

Actors, designers and techni-

"We only choose plays we're

"really very simple".

Goes To Moscow, an enjoyable documentary about the British Council/AT&T-sponsored trip to be shown on Channel 4 next Sunday at 9pm, McDiarmid suggests that this "coals to Newcastle" expedition is "theatrically perverse, almost surreal". But it turned out, he says now, to be "exciting and moving".

The Russians were fascinated by David Hare's translation and how, in combination with Jonathan's direction. it brought out Ivanov's farcical elements. Some found that revelatory, others said we were cheapening Chekhov."

In London Ivanov had been a phenomenon, with hundreds camping overnight outside the

Almeida to secure a ticket and clans respond to that commita glimpse of Fiennes. The ment. Secondly, because the recipe was the same as for the company owns the site, the other most notable successes theatre belongs to everybody of McDiarmid's and Kent's who works here. That creates eight years at the theatre. No a family atmosphere which actors enjoy."
There have been disappoint-Man's Land with Paul Eddington, Medea with Diana

ments. Some of the new plays premiered at the Almeida have underperformed at the box office, and in 1991 McDiarmid, an award-winning (if temporarily lapsed) director, made "a big mistake" by acting in as well as directing *Lulu*. Hits and misses are made

possible by the Almeida's "fabulous" development team, which attracts £550,000 a year in private and corporate dona-

£480,000 public subsidy. New. ertheless, the finances remain as "simple" as the artistic policy. "If two successive shows don't sell at least 75 per cent of their seats, we're in crisis. If three in a row don't, we're on the edge of bankruptcy." Their local MP. one Chris

Smith, has been "very sup-portive" in the past, but McDiarmid knows there would be no point banging on his rable and demanding preferential treatment, either for increased subsidy or on the current £2.9 million lottery bid to improve the theatre and purchase and renovate the dilapidated rehearsal rooms.

The Almeida's record in persuading Rigg. Fiennes and Co to work for the Equity minimum of £225 a week was remarkable even before they announced their first productions for 1998: Juliette Binoche in Pirandello's Naked, Kevin Spacey in The Iceman Cometh and Liam Neeson as Oscar Wilde in David Hare's The Judas Kiss.

West End producers would pawn a close relative to sign up one member of that trio. never mind all three. Yet McDiarmid quietly explains that Liam, Juliette and Kevin all saw Ivanov, loved the 300seat auditorium's intimacy between actors and audience. and all wanted to get back on stage after years of film work "It was relatively simple." McDiarmid the actor in-

variably invests his characters with immense intelligence, be it benign (Einstein in Terry Johnson's Insignificance, a forensics professor in Gorky Park), or monstrous (the title role in Volpone, or the psychotic who tried to murder

Inspector Morse).
He is not at liberty to reveal whether Palatine (100 years old in Return of the Jedi, closer to McDiarmid's own 50 in the prequel) will add to his gallery of villains. Draconian confidentiality clauses mean he can say only that filming with George Lucas at Leavesden Studios in Hertfordshire over the summer was "extraordinary". And he offers a striking observation.

There was a wonderful concentration of purpose on set: Lucas runs a relatively small operation, with everyone utterly determined to get everything right. Financially it's nothing like the Almeida, but those principles are not unlike ours." Star Wars in Leavesden, star draws in Islington. You could say the Force is with him.

● The Government Inspector is at the Almeida, London N1 (0171-359) 4404) from Thursday to Jan 31, and the King's Theatre, Edinburgh (0131-220 4349) Feb 3-7

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CHANGING TIMES

A little too lean

WHAT would a sparrow riot or a sparrow stampede sound like? After sharing an afternoon with scores of small children in the Birmingham Hippodrome, I can tell you. Their chirruping became dementia as the curtain rose on the latest play by our leading tot-dramatist, David Wood. It was a heartening reminder of the excitement that live theatre can generate. I wish Wood had added as much as he might to the book Dick King-Smith published in 1983 and Chris Noonan turned into a hugely successful movie a

decade later. If you own a child or a video, you will not be much surprised by Wood's plot. Babe the affable piglet is won in a contest by Farmer Hogget, much to the delight of his wife, who bumbles about salivating at the prospect of roasts, chops, black pudding and whatnot. But can the most unsentimental yeoman really total a porker who not only thwarts rustlers and chases away wild dogs but, instructed by a maternal collie, becomes

Birmingham

expert at marshalling sheep? He can't, and is rewarded when One Man and His Dog is triumphantly transformed into One Man and His Hog. The children in the audience

became quiet and attentive, as

was only fitting since the play is partly a homily about politeness. The point is that the sheep, who resent the dogs' bullying, are lulled into obedience by Babe, who asks them how they feel and if they'd mind helping him. The piece is concealed propaganda for good industrial relations and a reformed class system. If the poor workers fret at traditionalist managers, the answer may be to import someone from an unlikely background to try a soft-soap approach. Maybe Wood's Whirligig Company should take Babe to Dagenham the next time a tricky pay-round threatens.





Mary-Ann Coburn, Karen Briffett and Anthony Pedley

Wood's production is moving for seven weeks to Man-chester's Wythenshawe Forum, then Truro, Belfast, Hackney and a dozen other places. It will doubtless give pleasure, thanks to Anthony Pedley's doughty Hogget, Judy Wilson's genial Ma Hogget, and Karen Briffett's not-excessively-cute Babe in his/her not-outrageously-twee

pink padding. But I wish that the singalong in which kids and critics collectively chanted the sheep's secret password --"I'm not so stupid as I look" were not the only distinctively theatrical ingredient. Imaginatively, the show does what Babe himself doesn't. It oinks

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LONDON WC3

Two new London shows bring the most sinister undertones to rural scenes. Richard Cork plunges into the undergrowth

If you go down to the woods today...

tent, by gritty urhan life. When rural references do appear in con-temporary work, they are more likely to be troubled than

iple

In the past, British painters were often at their best when passionately engaged with the landscape at its most sublime. But the Romantic ecstasy of Constable or Turner is far removed from two impressive new exhibitions, where the countryside serves only as a starting-point for images filled with rension, un-

of dislocation.

Take Matt
Collishaw, whose **6** The lush locations naunting show at the Lisson Gallery look more starts with a roomful of woodland and more photographs. Seen as if through a like scenes spyhole, these large circular views lead us into of crime 🤊 picturesque, sundappled glades. In

each picture, a uniformed schoolgirl lies among the fonage. They might be mistaken at first for adolescents who. like Lewis Carroll's Alice, simply fell asleep on a country stroll. Or they might be daydreaming in a sylvan dell.

We soon realise, however. that something has gone wrong. Books are scattered pell-mell among the leaves. along with other, more sinister tubes and pots. Despite their clean white socks and school ties, these girls might be victims. Suddenly, the photographs' circular format becomes alarmingly reminiscent of a rifle's view-finder. And the

ew British art is figures' stillness grows more obsessed, to an ominous, suggesting that they are easy prey for anyone with predatory intentions.

What is going on here? Near the centre of the gallery, Collishaw has placed a tyre festooned with plants and flowers. They ought to evoke the pleasures of a harmless ramble. But among the ferns lurk an old-fashioned camera and, more sinister still, a canister labelled Purified Butane Lighter. These girls have been sniffing solvents. They might well be addicts, which would explain their willingness to put themselves at risk.

The camera indicates that a voyeur has aiready been at work. So the lush, enticing locations in the photographs look increasingly like the scenes of a crime — just as the flower-bedecked setting of another photograph, where three grieving in-fants stare down at a lifeless bird, illustrates the nursery rhyme Who Killed Cock Rob-

A Victorian funerary angel reclines next to one of the girls. increasing the probability that their death is near. And Collishaw makes them appear even more vulnerable by specifying their first names in the titles of the works. Clara, Emily and Kateline: we are able to identify them, just as newspaper reports of woodland murders might distress us by revealing who the anonymous bodies really are.

Before each name, though, Collishaw has added the words The Awakening of Conscience. Devotees of the Pre-



A detail from Matt Collishaw's 1997 Who Killed Cock Robin?: an ostensibly calm pastoral image carries typically disturbing overtones of childhood innocence endangered

Raphaelites will doubtless find themselves remembering Holman Hunt's once-notorious painting The Awakening Conscience, where a kept woman in St John's Wood yearns for redemption.

But the girls in Collishaw's photographs show no sign of wanting to change their lives. They seem as embroiled in addiction as the video image of a stripper, projected on a large screen next door. Eyed by male onlookers standing in a shadowy circle around her, she revolves and exposes her body to their hungry gaze. Cleverly made from 20 still photographs morphed together, she seems doomed to repeat the same pose for as long as her audience remains ogling. Her features seem masked and expressionless.

But at least she remains upright and controlled, unlike the figures in the upstairs gallery. Here, synthetic lotus flowers float on "lakes" lined with plastic. They look like the decor in a kitsch hotel foyer or brothel, and the naked bulbs dangling over them add to the

melancholy air of seediness. At the heart of the biggest flower in each pond is a small projected video of a prostitute touting for business on the Tottering along in thigh-length boots, they eye the cars cruising past. But they are barely able to stand, and one of them collapses in a stupor probably induced by drugs. Once again, Collishaw discloses their identity in his Carmen. Chariene, Keiko, Leticia and Sandy. The names increase the sense of wretchedness, and the cloying prettiness of the lotuses serves only to heighten the women's degradation.

So the rural references in this show end up illuminating the urban reality Collishaw

has explored in earlier works on violence and homelessness. In this respect, his work has an unexpected kinship with Rose Finn-Kelcey's absorbing and provocative exhibition at Camden Arts Centre. Immediately we enter the eye-battering brightness of the main gallery, agricultural images seem to confront us. Five plump yellow sacks stand near by, fit for containing potatoes, earth or corn. And

room, its reflected whiteness shimmering in the highly polished floor. The nearer we approach them, though, the less bucolic these objects become. The "sacks" turn out to be made of rubber, silicone and foam. Hard and bulging, they look

beyond them, an enormous

farm gate stretches across the

plastic toys than anything found in a field. The gate is, if anything, even more removed from farming reality. Spotless and streamlined under the gallery lights, its clinical surface has been coated with car spray-paint. If these tantalising

images arise from Finn-Kelcey's own divided experience. Although she has lived in London for the past 30 years, her childhood was spent in the country. It shaped her imagination at a formative stage. and explains why she now attempts to explore the friction in what she calls "the space between the rural and the urban". Hence the unclassifiable character of the works on view here. They seem to transcend their agricultural origins. But nothing quite pre-pares us for the titles Finn-Kelcey has given them. The sacks are called Souls, and their companion is The Pearly Gate. So maybe we are presented here with an ironic vision of heaven - or rather, the tension-ridden place where the deceased finally discover if they have gained access to eternal bliss. The sacks are. after all, still some distance from the daunting, monumental gate. But at least the gate stands ajur, giving a qualified optimism to the work as a

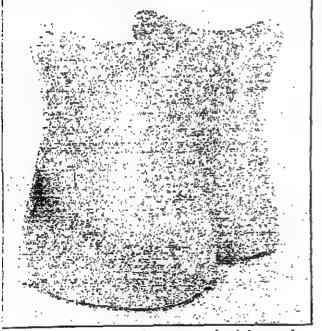
All the same. Finn-Kelcey's subversiveness should not be underestimated. In the next room, a tufted wool rug lies on steeply sloping support. Suspended between ground and ceiling, it bears a vastly enlarged image of a 1,000-lire

Vatican airmail stamp. A heavily bearded God the Father dominates the design. illuminated by a halo and clasping a quill pen. Probably derived from a painting in the Varican's collection. He appears to float on a cloud. But the franking marks undulating across the stamp resemble waves, and lend Him a nautical air. Hence Finn-Kelcey's mischievous decision to give the deity an eyepatch, transforming Him into a pirate.

The final gallery returns us to the farmyard, but the spiritual dimension refuses to be ousted altogether. Painted white, this long and lofty space could scarcely be more pristine. The entire floor has. however, been covered in deep layers of oat straw. So have the great arched windows, ensurthat the traffic-clotted Finchley Road is sealed from sight. Rich in texture, colour and smell alike, the bristing straw turns the room into a warm, womb-like shelter, It invites us to lie down in it, and forget about gallery-going alfuntasise about folling in a real barn, soothed by its contents comforting presence.

One end wall is left free of straw, so that the constellation of black dots punctuating its white surface stands out with maximum force. They suggest stars flickering in a sky devoid of city pollution, encouraging us to contemplate an unfathumable cosmos far beyond the fernile and sustaining earth.

Matt Collishaw at the Lisson Gallery (0171-724-2739) until Dec 19: Rose Finn-Kelcev at Camden Arts Centre (0171-35 3643) until



Rose Finn-Kelcey's Souls turn out to be sinister sacks

AROUND THE GALLERIES

more like blown-up versions of

■ ALTHOUGH Miroslaw Balka continues to work with a formal quietness, he has introduced a more visceral set physical associations. Wooden wall boards flap open like a raw saloon-bar door, but a wet, stuffed sausage shape directly below on the floor brings in a wilfully different element. The material he uses is somehow less heavy, less transformed from one thing to another. Cuffs. feathers, stirrups, coffins and an empty mirror are alluded to in the simplest fashion. The work seems less autonomous, demanding a reciprocal audience involvement. London Projects, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (0171-734 1723) until Jan 17

THE latest painting from Jason Brooks, a series of seven works in acrylic on canvas and paper done in the last year, have a serious virtuoso air. The large blackand-white paintings manage to look exactly like the blackand-white photographs of artist friends from which they The people stare straight out, the reflection of the camera caught in the pupil of each eye. The pictures do not benefit from being shown together: any individuality wanes. Familiar questions about the role of the photograph in painting, however, certainly rush back. Entwistle, 6 Cork Street, London Wi (0171-734 6440) until Jan 17

IN THE week that The Borrowers hits our cinema screens, the German artist Gregor Schneider brings his own more threatening artistic equivalent to Sadie Coles's gallery. On a video projected in a dark space the viewer is taken on a meandering and disorientating hand-held film journey through the bowels of the artist's own house or place within a place. The hint of muffled fear comes out from this hinterland of real and contructed space between walls and under floors. It is difficult to move the eye properly, to get any real overview or gain control. Every now and then a grunt, a natural sound, breaks the physical concentration. Sadie Coles HQ, 35 Heddon Street. London WI (0)71-434

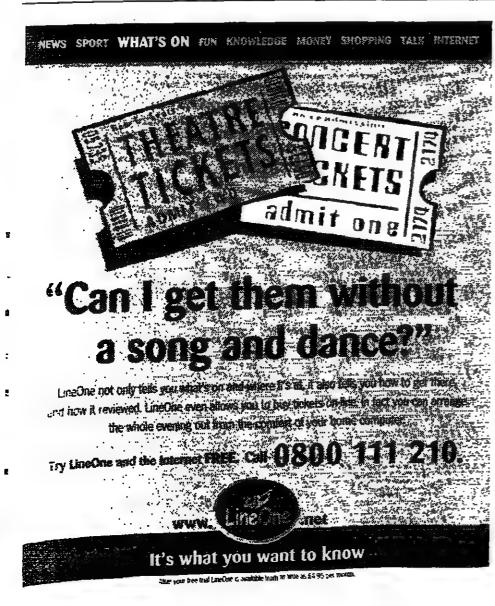
2227) until Jan 10 SACHA CRADDOCK

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CELEBRITY RECITAL: A great exponently to sample the sublime playing of the internationally acclaimed informat Majum Vengesov is offered lonight Accompanied on the piano by tongin Accompanies on the plants by low Uryach, the Russan virtues o parforms a programmo of Mozert, Beethovon and Brahms. Feetiteal Hell, South Bark, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonght, 7 30pm. (2)

HAYDN MASSES John Biol Gustner conducts the period instrument Romantique joined by the renowned Montening Ches in the limit of two concerts leaturing Haydn's late masses On tonight's programme is the Missa in Angustas, preceded by choruses from Angustes, preceded by choruses from Monares by Mozart, and Beethoven S Voln Concerto No 4 With Robert Lewin lortepana Nest concert. Feb 5. Barbilama, Sift Street, EC2 (0171-838 8891) Tonight, 7 45pm. (2)

HERITAGE George Cole plays a military personner in a London retireme home, with Tim Pigoti-Smith and Gwen Taylor as his son and designer, each solnit at a lime of change Mark. Rayment directs new play by Stephen Chuschett, euthor of Tom and Clem. Hemonated Theatre Swess Cottage Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301) Opens lonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. (5)

STRANGER'S HOUSE: Mary Peale directs the main German production in the New European Wating seasor. Dea Loher's play follows the unfolding crisis after the arrival of a Macedonian

elter the armail of a Macedonan
Royal Court Upstains (Ambessedors),
West St WC2 (0171-565 5000) Preview
bright, 8.45pm. Opens bromorow
8.45pm. Dec 4-8, 8.45pm. Then in rep
(Doc 3-5, 7pm, and Dac 6, 3.30pm and
7pm; reheared readings of new
German comedies, some of which
sound exuberantly turny)

ALL IN THE WRONG, Paul Shelley recreates the role of Sir John Restless of Arthur Murphy's evcellent 18th Century romp One of this thealre's happest Charmes without.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street.

7.45pm; mats Thur January 31, 230pm and Sat, 4pm. Additional mats Dec 13, 31, Jan 2, 4pm. Until January 31 ART: Ron Cook, Nige! Havers and interesting drama about inendship, propoken resentment and an almost

Wyndhem's, Cherng Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Tue-Sat, Sprtt; mets Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm THE CHAIRS Richard Bress and Geraldine McEwan play the ancient couple waiting for their important guests in lonesco's celebrated 'Tragic larco'' Simon McBurney directs for Taxon Modurney devotes for Complete Royal Court Downstelling (Duke of York's), St Materi's Lane, WC2 (0171-585 5000) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm mat Sat (from Nov 29), 3.30pm (5)

IJ CHIPS WITH EVERYTHING: Fred an Chilles WITH EVERYTHMIC HIS-big London reweal for Annold Wesker s 1962 play about class discontent and untruking obediency in the armed torces. With Julian Glover and Rupert Perny-Jones, Directed by Howard

National (Lyttetton), South Bank, SE1 10171-928 22523 Tonghi-Thur, 7 30pm mai Thur, 2 15pm in rep

EL CYTHANO DE BERGERAC: The sell-out RSC production from Strafford with Antony Sher as Rosland's tragic

NEW RELEASES ALIEN RESURRECTION (18):
Sigourney Weaver's Pirpley returns to
combat more aliens in a jaunity sequel that ultimately gets out of hend. With Winona Ryder Director, Jean-Pierre

AND 10181-235 30050 OV Camden Town (0181-315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Swise Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) UCI Whiteleys a HEADS IN A DUFFEL BAG (15)

Journal. ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772)

 Mebber Joe Pesci loses a bog of semand needs. So no black comed with Kristy Swenson and David Spec Director. Tom Schulman.

Warmer (a) (0171-437 4343) DEEP THE AMPROXITEM FLYING

(12): The struggles of Richard E. Grant's applying poer Small pleasures only in a on of Crweii's 1930s n Helena Bortham Carter Director, Robert Blaman Hobert Serman Clephent PH (0171-498 3323) Curasen Mayter (0171-369 1720) Odeon Series Cottage (0181-315 4220)

THE MYTH OF PINGERPRINTS (15) Drams about a dystinctional family, with good scenes and a good cast, but a hotiow cuntro. But Philumblich directs Roy Schelder, Blythe Danner, Julianne

All Car Boker Street (0171-925 9772) Tottenham Ct Rd (0171-636 5148) ONE HIGHT STAND (18) Absorbing study in infidelity and its aftermath Excellent performances from Wesley

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment complied by Marit Hargie

Milk Wood, Dytan Thomae's "play for issues", 57 of from in all.
Playhouse Studie, Thoshe Walk, Eagle Centre (0/332/363275). Opens Dec 2, 7/45pm. Then Toe-Set, 7/45pm. Until December 13 (5)

HIGH WYCOMBE: Final week for the London City Ballet tour of Michael Robink's neo-classical staging of The Steeping Beauty set to Tchalkowsky's glorious score With designs by David Blookers

Bight.
Wycomb. Same Si May Same
(01494 512000) Tonght-Sat, 8pm; mais
tomorow and Sat, 2.30pm.

torrance and Sat, 2:30pm.

SoliTHAMPTONE The can of a series of operate delights here as Glyndebourne Touring Opera arress with the season's reportore Possin's Le Conte Ory opens the run tonight, with a turber performance on Thursday. Tomorowe and Saturday Mozait's comic Die Entithrung aus dem Serai is on offer, with one performance brid on Priday of Janabek's thought provising work The Marropulos Case.

Marflower Theather, Commercial

Mayflower Theatre, Commercial Road (01703 711811) Perfs 7 15pm.

Barbleane Don McCulin. Seeping with Museum: Cartier 1900-1939 (0171-323 6891) . British Museum: Cartier 1900-1939 (0171-323 6825) Deetign Museum: Conran Foundation Collection (01771-378 6055). Hayward: Objects of Desire The Modern Stit Life (0171-928 3144) . Mattle Discourance Eye (0171-930 6944). Martinonal Hogarth's Martinonal Portreit: Hyenas in Petrocess Mary Wolstonecraft and Mary Shelley (0171-306 0055). Reyel Asselwey Victorian Feiry Painting (0171-427-7438). Seepending: Frem Marzon (0171-80 9075). Tate. Tumer on the Lone The Tour through Northern France (0171-897 8000). Whitechapat Lines from France (0171-87 8000).

Hugh Whitemore's play about the effects of the Proturna scandal Comedy Thatetes, Partian Street, SWT (1711-329 1731) Mon-Sat, 7-45pm; mats Wad, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

SCISSOR HAPPY Comedy

whodumit where the audience can detective Adapted by Neil Mullark detective Adapted by Neil Mullarkey. Lee Simpson and Jim Sweeney from the US long-runer Shear Madriess Duchese, Catherine Street, WC2 (1171-194 5075), Mon-Fri, Sprrr, Söl. 5 30pm, 8 30pm; mat Wed, 2 30pm.

IT THEATRE IN THE TIME OF THE

C) THEATHE IN THE TURE OF THE GENERALS: Four short Agentinan plays, written in opposition to the Juries declarorship and part of the movement that contributed to its tail Colin Bimood freeds all four on the one evening. The authors are Carlos Somigliana. Eduardo Povlovsky, Maurico (Mariun and Roburto Cossa. Rinbercooph Theather Club., 118 Friborough Theat, SWI0 (0171-373) 3942; Tue-Sat, 7 30pm, Sun, Apm. Lintil December 20

LONG RUNNERS

LONDON GALLERIES

ELSEWHERE BATH: The Royal Shakespeare Company continues its four of the nation with five performances here of Ron With rive performances here of Ron Demeis time stugging of Hearry V, the Bard's epic depiction of the horrors of war updated to the 20th certury. With Michael Streen in the bite role. Theather Royal, Sawclose (01:225 448844) Tonight-Sar, 7 30pm, mais Wad and Sat. 2pm (5) DERBY Guy Musterson present



George Cole as an OAP at Hampstead Theatre

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingslon's accessment of theatre showing in London House full, returns only

Seats at all prices

romantic hero. Grogory Doren directs. Lyric, Shahesbury Ave. W1 (0171-494 5054). Mon-Sat. T 30pm; mats Wood and

ELECTRA, Zoe Wanamaker a powerful and polynant hereine in David Levraus's production from Chichester Marjone Yates plays Clytermestra. December Word Sand, Earling Sond. WC2 (0171-369 1732) Mon-Sat. Spm: mats fue and Sat, 4pm Until December 5 🔊

CLAN USEAL HUSSAND Resum of Peter Hall 5 enjoyable production, brindel of decephone Staming Months Shaw and Smon Ward, and Karle O'Mara as the sively troublemaker Gleigud, Shaltesbury Avis. W1 (0171-494 5085) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm; mate Thur Jorn and Sat, 4pm

LEONCE AND LENA. Christopher Stames and Sorah Belcher play the royal lowers in the least farmitiar of Buchner's three plays David Fair directs Caste Theatre, Prince Albert Pub. 11 Perrondge Road, W11 (0171-229 0706) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm Until Dec 20 LA LETTER OF RESIGNATION Edward Fox and Clare Higgins play Harold Macmillan and Lady Dorothy in

CINEMA GUIDE

Geatl Brown's ass films in London and (where indicated with the symbol +) on release across the country

Sripes: Names ig Kirsky, Robert Downey at and hyle MacLacitian. Writer-director, Miles Figge. Barthican (2) (0171-638-8991) Claphaten Picture House (0171-698-3323) Gette (2) (0171-727-4043) Odeo Caunden Town (0181-315-425) Piess (2) (01801-88990) Richmond (0181-(0190 898990) Richmond (0181-332 0030) UCI Whiteleys () (0990 888390) Virgin Trocadero () (0181-970 8015) Warner () (0171-437 4343) THE TANGO LESSON (PG): A tim director learns to lango. Brave and enticing film by the director of Orlando

Verszi. Chelses (0171-351 3742) Odeon Mezzaniko (10781-315 4215) Renoir (0171-837 8402) UNDER THE SKIN (15); Powerlui.

edgy British first leature exploring the shockwaves of grief, With Samantha Morton, Director, Canne Adler. Metro (0171-437 0757) Fitzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Beiter Street (0171-CURRENT

◆ LA. CONFIDENTIAL (18) Smashing drama about comption in LA in the early 1950s, with Kevin Spacey, □ Blood Brothers Phoens (0171-369
1733) ■ Catts New London (0171-405 0072) ■ Greate Carriondge (0171-494 5000) □ Martin Guerre.
Prucce Edward (0171-447 5000)
■ Miles Seigeor Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) □ The Mouseirap
St Martin 9 (0171-363 1443)
■ Offiver! Palledaum (0171-394 5020)
■ The Phartoon of the Count.
Hot Magsty's (0171-394 5400)
■ Smotory Joe's Cafer Prince of Wales (0171-329 5807)

Ticket information supplied by Society of Eurodon Theatre

Russel Crowe, Kim Basinger, Guy Pearce and Danny DeVice, Director, Curtit Hanson ABC Parties Street (0171-930 0631) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Notting Hill Coronet & (0171-727 8705) HIR Coronet BJ (0171-727 6705)
Odeons: Cazaden Tevrn (0181-315
4255) Kensington (0181-315-4214)
Minrite Arch (0181-315-4216) Switzs
Cottage (0181-315-4220) Ritzy (0771-737-2721) Sersen/Green (0171-226
330) UCI Whiteleys BJ (0590-88990)
Virgin Heymertet (0171-839-1527)
Warner BJ (0171-437-4343) LAWN DOGS (15). Two outsiders for imaginative drama, with strong performences by young Macha Baron and Som Rodswell. Oleator, John

Dugart ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-836 6148) Clapham Picture House (0171-868 3323) Curann West End (0171-868 1722) poignem version of Pat Barker's novel

poignam version of that barrier a now shoul First World Wes soldiers in six Edinburgh military hospital, with Jonathan Physic and James Wilby. Director, Gilles MacKimton, Odeon Haymanteet (0187-315 4212) SEVEN YEARS IN TIBET (PG):
Brad Pit finds enlighterment in 1940s
That, but what alread us? Hundsome
but muddled chama, with David Thewle Dut microled Granta, with Daylo Traines Director, Jean-Jacques Annaud. Empire (5) (0990 983990) (5) Odeone: Carolen Town 10181-315 4214) Marbie Anna (0181-315 4214) Marbie Anna (0181-315 4214) Marbie (0181-315 4230) UCI Whitnieya (2) Capital appeal

most love to album Fresco received some savage reviews (The Times excepted), the charge most often levelled against them being that their feel-good funk is somehow not authentic. One critic even went so far as to accuse them and the homegrown soul school they represent of "diluting, castrating and trivialising black music".

Their current tour shows how silly this is. Old-fashioned and unchallenging M People may be, but their brand of uncomplicated disco-pop is brilliantly crafted, profession-ally presented — and totally uplifting. Two sold-out nights at Wembley and the chart placing of Fresco also suggest that the public pays little heed to the prejudices of the selfappointed tastemakers.

Live they expand to an 11-piece, the band mostly confined to the rear of the stage. The broad acres at the front are Heather Small's domain. She appeared in a long, slinky crimson gown, her familiar pineapple hair allowed to hang loose, and apart from a brief costume change she was never out of the spotlight. There are more naturally warm performers who generate a greater rapport with their audience, but compared with the petrified young woman who once stood on stage and gazed at her feet she is now a commanding presence.

Her big voice filled the arena more dramatically than just about any of the other

Wembley Arena

over the past year, from Tina Turner to Gloria Estefan. Her deep and throaty roar penetrated every cranny and her style perfectly suited the songs - straightforward, honest and without pretension.

They opened with Angel Street, a joyous piece of funk from the new album, and moved through Excited and new songs Never Mind Love and Red Flower Sunset. The band was tight but deliberately anonymous, relying on Small's radiance, although Mike Pickering, the musical intelligence behind the band, is prone to the embarrassing fortyish gyrating that is had enough in a club, let alone in front of a full house.

After a quick change into a stunning black catsuit, Small led the band into the storming Open Up Your Heart before inviting us to join in singing the Peugeot ad, otherwise known as Search For The Hero. The first encore included the beguiling Just For You and the drum and bass infused Avalon, both from the new album.

They returned again to finish with the inevitable dance anthem. Moving On Up, once hijacked as a campaign theme by Tony Blair. It is questionable whether the song still describes new Labour's direction, but the momentum is still with M People, whatever anyone else might try to tell you.

divas who have played here NIGEL WILLIAMSON



Big hair, big voice: Heather Small's deep and throaty roar filled every corner of the arena

CONCERTS: Unconventional tuning in Yorkshire; and a fine Prokofiev Festival in London

Banishing the bland

BBCPO/Borustein Huddersfield

IF YOU knew nothing about Lou Harrison you would have thought there was something wrong with his Piano Concerto with Selected Orchestra. In fact, by the long-accepted compromise standard of equal temperament, the piano was slightly out of tune. So too, when they remembered to play according to the Kirnberger system the composer prefers, were the accompanying strings and trombones of the BBC Philharmonic.

While Harrison did not like equal temperament, he seemed not to like Kirnberger No 2 much either, Certainly, after an oddly insipid beginning, he introduced a second movement of such percussive ferocity that the fine tuning was distorted within minutes. Specially equipped with an octave bar designed to strike eight white keys or six black keys at once, Joanna MacGregor performed an extraordinary feat of brilliantly choreographed, precisely calculated and relentlessly

sustained rhythmic violence. After that, there was no way that the concerto could return to Kirnberger No 2 duliness. Its bland temperament had been irretrievably wrecked and all it could do was stagger through a bewildered slow movement to an unconvincingly brief ending.

The Harrison concerto was the second item in a Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival concert exceptional in length, extensive in ambition and scarcely failing in interest. It would have been more effective if the four items had been presented in a different order but, under the direction of Charles Zacharie Bornstein, it was no less an achievement for that.

The first UK performance of lannis Xenakis's exhilarating Cendrees dating from 1973 - inspired a brave discarding of inhibition in the New London Chamber Choir, which howled like a Chinese opera to the accompaniment of a similarly ilimannered BBC Philharmonic, Before that there was another first UK performance in a very smartly turnedout account of Gerard Grisey's Modulations, which rethinks sound and creates it afresh in an uncompromising way. And, most inspired of all, there was Charles Ives's Second Orchestral Set, which rethinks everything as it was thought in 1911 and, for the most part, still is.

Echoes of Petrushka

IPO/Lazarev Festival Hall

FEW composers are best served by whole festivals or just single concerts. of their music, but Prokofiev is one on whom it would be hard to overdose. Even his less frequently played works, the focus of the London Philharmonic's current Prokofiev Festival, reveal the same variety of inventiveness as his better known pieces. Still, it was astonishing to remember that the contrasting scores played in Friday's concert came from a single decade early in his life, not from different phases of his remarkable career.

The major work of the evening was the ballet Chout, played complete here for the first time since Diaghilev introduced it to London in 1921. As the precursor of Prokofiev's more famous hallet scores it points the way towards Cinderella while containing echoes of Stravinsky's Petrushka, yet the piece is unlike anything else. Big tunes are given "wrong note" accompaniments

a riotous end, and if there is a weakness it lies in the consistently dense orchestration.

The black humour of the plot, based on a peculiarly Russian tale of wife-battering, is evoked in lively detail. But it is not simply about storytelling: Alexander Lazarev's command of the thoroughly worked-out themes suggested an almost symphonic structure and the orchestra responded to him with virtuosic panache.

It was all so vivid that Simon Callow's narration would probably have been redundant had it been audible, but with his microphone apparently switched off most of his contributions were lost.

Lazarev and the LPO also conjured up the dusky atmosphere of the early tone poem Dreams, and provided to both the conductor's restrained, unsentimental approach and the soloist's laid-back brilliance.

Repin played elegantly throughout, but also with both fire and subtlety, and even in the spiky scherzo he never made an ugly sound. The improvisatory freedom of his encore revealed that he is also something of an oldfashioned showman, and expectations will be high when he returns tomorrow in the Second Concerto.

JULIAN CLARY

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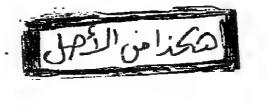
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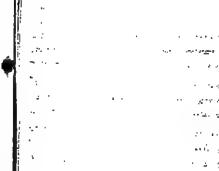
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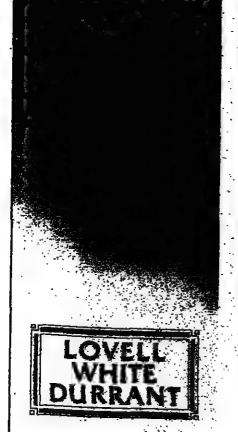






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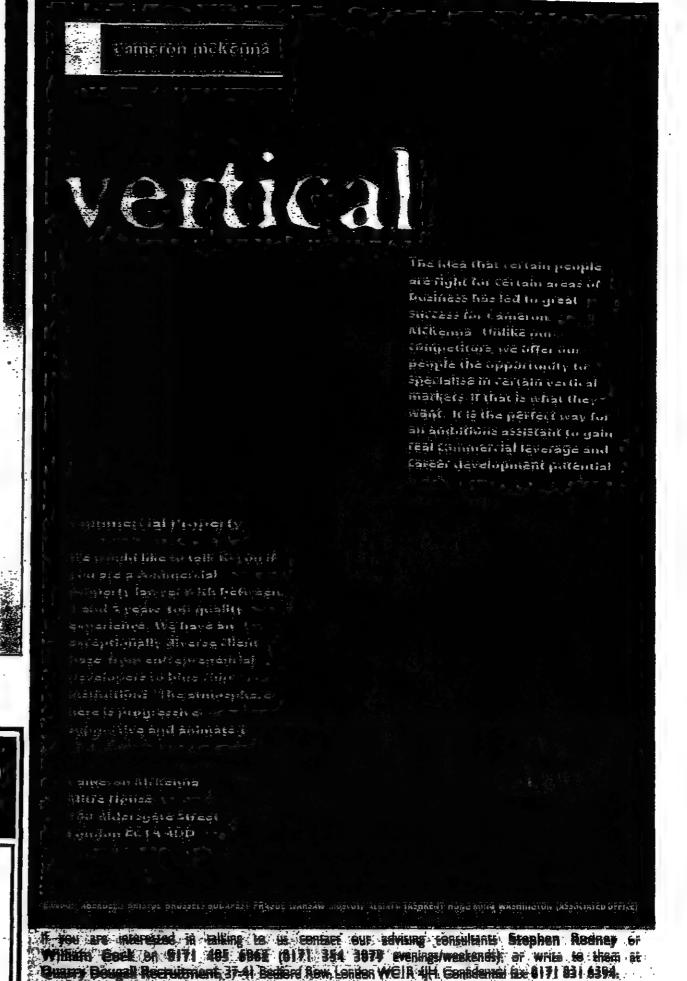
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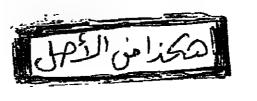
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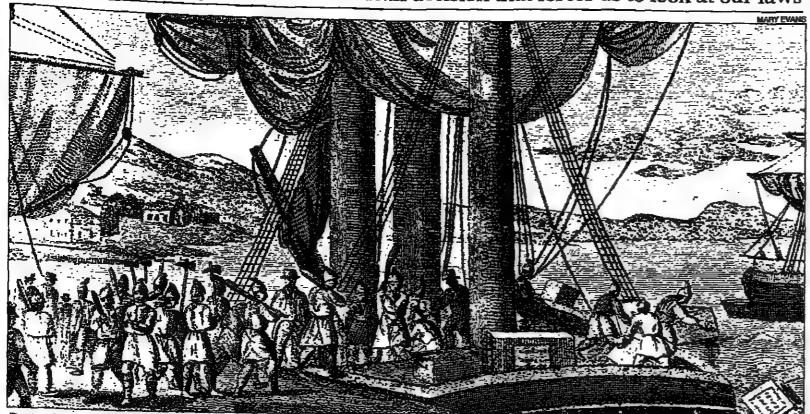
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LAW REPORT 22

Mark Stephens reports on an American decision that forces us to look at our laws



Boston Habour 1773: the destruction of tea cargoes in protest against English tax laws. Today the libel laws of the two countries are worlds apart Throwing libel overboard

years after the Boston Tea Parthority has again been thrown

The US Maryland State Appeals Court, asked to enforce routinely an English lihel judgment, has refused to order the American defendant to pay the \$416,000 awarded to the plaintiff by the UK court.

its reasons? The principles of English libel law fail to measure up to basic human rights standards and are "repugnant" to public policy and the constitutional ideal of free

The action was brought by Vladimir Telnikoff, a Russian immigrant, against Vladimir Matusevitch, a compatriot journalist, over the latter's angry response to Telnikoff's article on alleged race bias in the BBC's recruitment of Russian journalists. Both pieces had been published in The Daily Telegraph.

The final outcome of numerous hearings up to the House of Lords was a judgment in Telnikoff's favour and, in April, 1994, a normal request was made for its enforcement against the defendant, now working for Radio Free Europe in Washington. The Maryland court re-

fused. It held that the two published pieces were simply "rhetorical hyperbole" and part of "vigorous public de-bate"; the English laws in general and this judgment in particular ignored the guarantee of the free flow of ideas and opinions of matters of public concern, constitutionally by the First Amendment

Such fundamental rights theory apply to us as individuals, regardless of the State in which we live.

The UK, traditionally, has taken no account of such liberal ideas. In 1774 Lord Mansfield said: "Whatever a man publishes, he publishes at his perill" That premise still underpins contemporary libel law in England and Wales and while American libel law becomes more refined and evolves in a vibrant and responsive manner, our tort remains an archaic, blunt instrument

This is well demonstrated in the recognition in America of the discrepancy between private persons and public officials or figures, providing more accessible recourse for the former while ensuring increased First Amendment protection for the defence in the case of the latter. English law, however, pro-

vides little protection for the

open exchange of ideas unless the defendant can establish a defence on the narrow ground pean Convention on Human Rights. The fundamental principle of qualified privilege. His state of mind and conduct are

irrelevant and "an honest belief" in the truth of the publication provides no defence. A defamatory statement is presumed false unless and until the defendant proves otherwise. And, if the defendant pleads truth but fails to prove it, the damages awarded to the

plaintiff will be increased. By contrast, the US plaintiff must prove falsity or malice. and in most other non-Commonwealth countries a plaintiff cannot claim damages without proving "actual inju-ry" to his reputation and negligence on the part of the publisher of the statement. It is precisely such presump-

tion in favour of the plaintiff in England, twinned with what in the past have been astronomical damages awards, that gives rise to the chilling can be held partly to blame for the reluctance to expose wrongdoing and corruption and the suppression of the

dissemination of information. The Maryland court has declared our libel law repugnant to the American system We should also find it unacceptable that a libel plaintiff does not have to make out his own case because the full weight of presumption of guilt falls on the defendant - the

one inexplicable exception to our rules of judicial process. The Matusevitch decision might be seen simply as a local annovance to the (as yet) unsatisfied plaintiff. But it heralds more fundamental changes in the UK libel laws.

The UK has published a Bill of Rights to entrench the Euro-

libel laws and fundamental freedoms is therefore long overdue. I do not condone a shift to blind support for media defendants. But a subtle move from the game show of findings by celebrity-se-duced juries, ready to bite the hand of the media with the same hypocrisy with which that hands feeds them, could lead to a more acceptable middle ground.

London is the libel capital of the world. But question the • The author is senior partner of

We should be proud that

of free speech, a central convention article, will be codified in the UK and a garrulous but honest defendant will have a legitimate counter to the heaviweighted presumptions in favour of libel plaintiffs in this

A re-examination of our the legal system.

Give generously for free counsel

Then the Fool tells King Lear that "the breath of an unfee'd lawyer" is of no value, the King agrees that nothing can be made out of nothing", Today is the 25th anniversary celebration of the birth of the Free Representation Unit (FRU). a scheme which has demonstrated that lawyers can and do represent clients without fees, to the substantial advantage of them both, and to the benefit of the legal system.

FRU was founded in 1972 by a group of Bar Finals students concerned to provide assistance at courts and tribunals to people who would otherwise lack legal representation. From the modest beginnings of student idealism. FRU now handles more than 1,600 cases a year. The representatives are mainly student and pupil barristers, trained to assist the public by conducting cases before tribunals in the contexts of employment law. social security and welfare law, immigration law, and at Criminal Injuries Compensation

Boards. FRU has been a charity since 1987. It now employs five permanent staff to administer the scheme, which works through referrals from bodies such as Citizens Advice Bureaux and Law Centres.

FRU has become the largest single provider of representation pro bono publico (for the good of the public) in the United Kingdom. It acts for more than 50 per cent of all represented applicants in London industrial tribunals. The value of the work is recognised at all levels: clients who would otherwise he unrepresented benefit from legal advice and assistance; tribunals are protected from the time-consuming task of deal-

ing with litigants in person; and young lawyers learn lessons in advocacy, human relations and case management which cannot be taught in the classroom.

COUNSEL

DAVID

PANNICK QC

In his message to FRU on its anniversary. Tony Blair has rightly paid tribute to its "impressive record of service". As the Prime Minister has emphasised, for many people tribunals will be their only experience of justice in action" and the cases are of enormous importance to them. By helping to ensure that those with cases before tribunals have their claims properly argued. FRU is doing work of great value to the integrity of

There are other excellent pro bono schemes involving lawyers. For many years, several solicitors and barristers have represented in the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council defendants who are on death row in various Caribbean states. Many other lawyers regularly represent, without a fee, impecgo unheard, or devote themselves to representing convicted clients in whose innocence they believe. In an important commercial case in the Court of Appeal in 1996, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, complimented the counsel and solicitor acting without a fee for an imperunious client, and expressed "the hope that their example may inspire others in a similarly public-spirited manner".

Pro bono work is an obligation on a profession, particularly one which continues to enjoy monopoly rights to provide legal services in the higher courts. The particular value of the FRU scheme is that it provides a systematic service in tribunals that decide issues of much importance to the welfare of individuals, but where the State has declined to grant legal aid. Of course, the Government should be encouraged to fund effective representation in tribunals, as in courts, but unless and until that happy day arrives, the Bar has a duty to assist those whose claims

would otherwise not be properly argued.

The excellent work carried out by FRU costs money to administer: about £150,000 a year, astonishingly good value at less than £100 a case, FRU depends on funding from the Bar Council and the Inns of Court, and individual covenants from barristers and their chambers. The FRU finances are not in a healthy state. It has instituted an anniversary appeal, which deserves the support of all members of the Bar. As the American Bar Associ-

ation Model Rules of Professional Conduct explain. a lawyer should render public interest legal service". This obligation may be discharged by providing professional services at no fee for

at a reduced fee), by other voluntary service within the legal system, or "by financial support for organisations that provide legal services to persons of limited means". Busy lawyers should meet their obligations through their chequebook.

In Gulliver's Travels Jonathan Swift criticised advocates as people "bred up from their youth in the art of proving by words multiplied for the purpose that white is black, and black is white, according as they are paid". Lawyers are entitled to regard Swift's satire as unjustified in one respect: they are prepared to exercise their skills of advocacy without payment in honour of FRU's birthday, lawyers should make the financial contribution necessary to ensure that FRU can continue to promote the interests of the poor, the legal education of young barristers. and the reputation of the legal profession. ● FRU. 1st floor. 49-51 Bedford Row, London WC1.

0171-831 OhP.2. The duthor is a practising bu

END OF THE EIGHTIES BONANZA

THE DAYS of "jackpot" libel damages of the 1980s are over, according to a recent survey by the media law firm Biddle & Co. Frances Gibb writes. It shows that libel damages have fallen dramatically over the decade, and that top awards are now between £50,000 to £125,000, compared with more than £500,000 a few

Judges now take a tough line in setting guidelines to bring awards into line with personal injury damages. They also have power to reduce jury awards on appeal and ensure that - as under European law — damages are proportionate to the harm suffered. David Hooper, head of the media law department at Biddle & Co. said: "Enormous awards to scap-opera stars are definitely a thing of the past. Even if juries do award big sums, they are certain to be reduced on appeal to levels in line with personal

injury awards in the wake of a ruling by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Combill, in 1993 that this was the appropriate benchmark.

Mr Hooper added: "It was considered objectionable that a relatively trivial libel could result in a

large awards have been made recently, you find that

afterwards, the parties are settling for far less because In a case brought by Elton John against Mirror Group Newspapers last year, damages of £350,000 were cut to £75,000 "for a not very grave libel about whether the pop star was suffering from bulimia".

In another recent case, the Court of Appeal reduced El15,000 damages to E55,000 to a businesman for alle gations in a Sunday newspaper about his activities in

The survey is based on 86 High Court awards (mostly libel but including a few for slander). Where an award was reduced on appeal, the final figure is

Duncan Lamont, another media solicitor at the firm, said that despite the guidelines now given to juries he did not think that people would be deterred from pursuing libel actions. "A sum of £100,000 nax free is still a lot of money," he added, "and in these cases people do feel genuinely very upset and burt by the things that have been said about them." A new fast-track defamation procedure likely to come into force by next year could also drive thown awards.

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New attack on CPS

A CROWN Prosecution Service policy of offering prosecuting counsel "uneconomic" fees in serious cases such as rape is leading to an imbalance in the quality of prosecuting and defence counsel, according to James Hunt. QC. in December's Counsel. the leader of the Midland and Oxford Circuit claims that the public and the victims of crime would be "appalled" if

the convictions of rapists than in seeking to defend them. Mr Hunt has sent Dame Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, figures compiled from the data provided by several sets on his circuit, which, he chairas demonstrate that "on average, defence counsel receive 32 per cent more in fees

they realised how much less

was being invested in seeking

than prosecuting counsel". Court win SOUTHWARK Crown Court and Scalfordshire magistrates' courts have become the first courts to be awarded a Charter Mark, the award for excellence of service to the

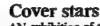
Southwark, a 14-courtroom centre dealing with a range of criminal cases, has launched several initiatives, including refurbishing public areas to segregate witnesses from defendants, welcoming new jurors and sometimes giving them guided tours in advance. a new reception desk and a video room so that lawyers can view any video evidence before a hearing.

Family friend

FAMILY LAW is, it could said, 75 years old: Professor Peter Bromley, the founding father of family law, last weekend celebrated his 75th birthday.

Bromley's Family Law the family law text book - is in its eighth edition, and the ninth is due next year.

Butterworths is bringing out Family Law Towards the Millennium (£39.95), a collection of essays in honour of the Professor.



AN exhibition of the work of artists who have illustrated the front covers of the New Law Journal over the past eight years is being beld by firm Collyer Bristow. The exhibition runs until

Detail from Andy Lovell's cover for New Law Journal



No pain, no gain?

DID Linklaters & Paines forget to to tell its partners that it was taking Saatchi and Saatchi's advice and dropping the "& Paines"? To a background noise of much laughter, one of the switchboard operators tried to ex-plain: "We are Linklaters but some of the partners do not know it yet. I am being diplomatic here, but we are not allowed to correct the partners

when they get it wrong."

The firm's marketing department says that the name Linklaters is used for marketing purposes but the "& Paines" is used when billing clients. No wonder the partners find it hard to drop the fuli name.

SCRIVENOR

 Women Against Rape writes in to correct its statistics (Law, November 18): the group says that 25 per cent of recorded not reported - rapes resulted in conviction in 1985 and less than 10 per cent in 1996.







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Simon Cheetham (formerly of ground floor, 10 King's Bench Walk, whose practice is mainly civil) has recently joined Chambers and that Garry Herbert M.B.E.

and Francesca Wiley have accepted invitations to join Chambers

at the end of their pupillages. The Members of Chambers are as follows:

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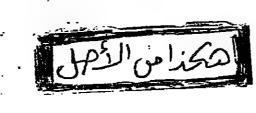
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No win, no fee, no solution

Adrian Zuckerman

on the flaws in

reform of legal aid

The Lord Chancellor is right to seek to reform legal aid. The provision of services at public expense can be justified on the basis of equality. But legal aid does not prumote equality, because it gives lingants access to justice which is denied to most provinces it is not if denied to most tarpayers. It is as if expensive medical treatment were offered at public expense to the poor, when it was beyond the reach of most ordinary people.

Access to civil courts is beyond

Lawyer David McIntosh, left, defending his profession against Professor Adrian Zuckerman's claims in The Times. Right, Lord Woolf



The value of solicitors

most citizens because the cost of bitigation is an high, sometimes

rofessor Adrian Zuckerman's persistence in claimsolution". The Times, October 28) that civil litigation is procedures but because lawyers complicate matters is sweepingly uninformed. But it is also insulting to the vast majority of litigation lawyers whose livelihoods depend on their continually providing a

He asks the Government to challenge head-on what he calls the "entrenched interests of lawyers", to ensure that legal fees are reasonable, predictable and proportional to the value of the issues at stake. But he fails to appreciate that day in, day out, experienced litigation lawyers advise their clients not to pursue or defend cases that are not worth the costs of doing so and that we know well the importance of the "costs equation".

Solicitors must, under their own professional rules, provide estimates alongside assessments of the merits of suing or defending from the onset, and regularly throughout litigation cases. We are not interested in selling unnecessary services.

There is no long-term future in that. Professor Zuckerman also makes play of the fact that defendants, unlike plaintiffs, will not be aided by Lawyers complicate things and draw them

out, claims an academic. Not so, says David McIntosh. We provide good value

the "no win, no fee" partial solution they attempted to elongate and to the problems of funding litigation and to the threatened with-

drawal of access to legal aid which may prevent many from asserting their legal rights. But those lawyers who specialise in civil litigation are already subject to marketplace value-for-money pres-

Does he really believe the regular buyers of litigation services, particularly in the personal injury field, do not insist on value for money from the lawyers they regu-larly instruct? The trade unions, motor organisations, medical and other defence

associations; professional indemni-

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no fee", stop unmeritorious cases being run at public expense. The clocking-up of too many hours, albeit less often than Profes-

sor Zuckerman contends, will be reduced once the vital element of judicial supervision in all civil litigation cases comes in as part of Lord Woolf's master plan improving civil justice procedure.

The innuendo of Professor Zuckerman's writings is that lawyers are resisting new practices and any method of remuneration other than hourly rates which, this Fellow of University College, Oxford, says, they manipulate.

ome off it, Professor Zuckerman. Stop pretending your academic investigations have established that lawyers are regularly cheating their clients. Why not give Lord Woolf's proposals - to which you have contributed, including that for fixed costs in low-value/fast-track cases, "no win, no fee" arrangements and a tighter legal-aid ments test - the chance to prove them-

And give the legal profession credit for its contributions in welcoming these changes, which will go a long way towards dismantling your hobbyhorse.

• The author is senior partner of Davies Arnold Cooper

A vital court service needs cash to survive, writes Paula Davies

Wanted: government aid for witness group

Playing his namesake, "Buffalo Bill" Cody, Mayor of Dudley, raised funds for a Witness Support Service in his local magistrates' court. Started on November 3 with 16 volunteers, it was thanks to the £16,000 he raised that the service has got off the ground. His efforts are an indication of the many different ways in which people throughout the country are trying to get what is available in the 90 Crown Courts

extended to the 556 lower courts. By the end of last year, Witness Support was available in 49 courts and by the end of this year it is hoped to be nearer \$0. Yet each one is funded from different sources, such as

courts committees, police, probation, local authorities, business, local charities and even the National Lottery. What worries those concerned is how to keep going when the money runs out Thanks to central funding in the Crown Courts, the Victim Support Service has supported nearly 100,00 people, 25 per cent of them victims, in the past year. Yet the courts deal with fewer than 5 per cent of cases. What is not in doubt is the

If you have never set foot in a court it can be a terrifying experience. "I was petrified for months before going," said a witness who was appearing at Snaresbrook Crown Court in East London in a particularly nasty assault case. Finding someone who can show you the court, explain what is going to happen and tell you what to expect is extraordinarily reas-

success of the service itself.

suring.
This witness was immensely relieved to find someone who gave her practical information and support along with respect and recognition of her fears."The experience was certainly horrible," she said, "The people helping me, however.

Another witness described the service as a "damn good idea". "A volunteer took me round the court and told me exactly what to expect. And considering how difficult it must be to put people at their ease in such circumstances. I found him very supportive."

Getting the service extended to more magistrates' courts, if not all of them, is one problem. Keeping what is already there is, if anything, a greater one. In Leeds, where a pilot scheme was started in 1995, it is only thanks to a grant from the West Yorkshire Police that the service is sure of continuing until next April.

Since it began with a grant from the Leeds Save the Cities project, it has survived with contributions from the local magistrates' courts

DON'T WORRY. JUST TELLTHE COURT HOW THE MAN

STOLE YOUR GRAMOPHONE

committee, the Probation Service

in Newcastie, where nearly

3,000 people have used the service

over the past 12 months, there may

not be enough funding to continue

after December. The organisers

have been talking to the Crown

Prosecution Service, police, Proba-

tion Service and the Law Society to

try to keep its 60 volunteers

operating in seven adult and three

youth courts. The story is the same

all over the country.

and local charities and industry.

ernment is the clarion call and Victim Support estimates that it would cost £4 million a year to run a proper service in all magistrates courts. The proposal was put to the Home Office 18 months ago. "We believe," says Helen Peggs from the charity, "that there's a need for a witness service in some shape in every court. In some areas we may be able to run an outreach service from the local Victim Support scheme, or extend the Crown Court witness service. In busy courts we may need permanent staff and a volunteer team." The Home Office is at

present sitting on a report about options for improved support for victims and other witnesses attending court. Although recommendations have been made, the report, produced in March, is still going through the consultation period and remains confidential. It is thought that while being complimentary about the Crown Court service, it does not believe a national service is appropriate for the magistrates court. But in 1991 an independent working party pro-posed that local authorities be placed under a statutory duty to engage in schemes related to crime prevention and community safety. The Government of the day was not interested. This Government is and there will be a clause to this effect in the Crime and Disorder Bill. Sir Louis Blom-Cooper.

QC, chairman of Victim Support who is just ending his three-year stint said: The witness support schemes would fit into the Bill quite easily. This will mean funding by central Govern-

ment. Of course we would wish to run the service as an adjunct to the Crown Court scheme but we would have to be financed by central Government to achieve it. We are ready, willing and able to run such schemes in magistrates' courts just as we have done so successfully in the Crown Courts."

• The author is a magistrate in an Inner-London family proceedings court.

ing ("No win, no fee, no expensive not because of court have incentives to protract and simplistic and appealing to the value-for-money service.

Come off it, Professor,

stop saying that lawyers cheat clients

ty clubs, insurers, pharmaceutical companies, banks and other regular defendants invariably maintain carefully chosen panels of solicitors used to working to strict pricing and service protocols (sometimes involving fixed fees and capping arrangements) and who would be quickly found out and replaced if

No doubt, the Legal Aid Board from time to time has suffered from the fact that historically the lawyer it pays has been chosen less discriminatingly by the person seeking legal aid. These lay person choices have not al-ways been wise. But

from the perspective of a specialist personal injury practitioner with more than 30 years' experience, I can say that when too much hourly paid time has been invested, it is nearly always because of inexperience; not, as Professor Zuckerman suggests, because of self-servingness on the

part of a time-recording lawyer. This shortcoming is being addressed by the Legal Aid Board's moves towards supporting only "qualifying" firms so that the board will enjoy the same buying power as the other regular payers. Tightening the merits test for legal aid will, just as effectively as "no win.

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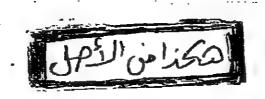
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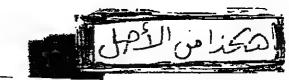
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opportunity this gives us to put things right and Improve our services for everyone with whom We are looking for an experienced

When we receive complaints we welcome the

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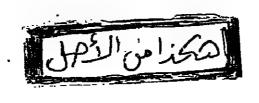
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FINANCE & ACCOUNTS MANAGER



* Newbury recruits trainers to help with ground rules

RACING

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

FOUR National Hunt trainers have been invited to offer advice and assistance to Newbury racecourse in response to growing criticism of the state of the ground at the Berkshire track.

After the intervention of Lord Carnarvon, chairman of Newbury, Toby Balding will be joined by David Gandolfo. Roger Curtis and Paul Webber in meetings with racecourse officials to discuss preparation of the ground and the programme of jump racing.

The creation of the new - which mirrors a similar Flat committee consisting of Lord Huntingdon, Roger Charlton and Mick Channon -- follows outspoken criticism of Newbury during the past week by Charlie Brooks and Kim Bailey.

Brooks lambasted Newbury for its "couldn't care less" attitude towards jump racing and highlighted the lack of work to prepare decent ground for the October meetng, which resulted in small fields. Bailey echoed those complaints at the weekend and the views of the two Lambourn handlers are

shared by other jump trainers. The formation of the Balding team is tacit acceptance that Newbury can improve the going during the autumn and its relations with jumps trainers who have been unhappy about official going reports for more than a year.

However, Lord Carnaryon feels some of the criticism has been unwarranted.

"If they are objective and accurate one can react to them, but the sort of things Brooks said were just a joke. It is ridiculous to say that Newbury doesn't like National Hunt racing. If it wasn't for the Hennessy we would not make a profit most years. The Hennessy is vitally important to us and it is one of the few days we insure against the weather.

Frankie Dettori unexpectedly returns at Lingfield Park today on Sweet Supposin in division two of the Marsh Green Handicap. Chris Dwyer, Sweet Supposin's trainer, said: "Frankie has won on the horse five times so I thought it would be nice if we could get him to ride."

"I have been used all my life to listening to people's problems and trying to deal with them, but you can't deal with them at an emotive moment. We welcome criticism provid-

Bailey's criticism of Newbury extended beyond the state of the ground. He said that the racecourse's outdated and stuffy approach was deterring potential sponsors and upsetting existing backers. Officials were aloof and unsympathetic to local companies who wanted to support Newbury, and he called for the racecourse management to change its attitude.

The sense of unease is also shared by some of Newbury's annual members, who feel they are getting anything but a fair deal on big racedays. "There is a ripple of discontent because we are not being looked after," one lady member said. They should recognise it, otherwise there is a danger that the ripple will quickly turn into a storm."

Whatever the rights and wrongs, Newbury is in danger of losing touch with the needs and wishes of some of its customer groups - and that alone should be sufficient to ring alarm bells for the Newbury board.

At the Horserace Writers and Reporters Association Derby awards in London yesterday, Michael Stoute won two of the major prizes -International Trainer of the Year and Flat Trainer of the

AWARD WithNETE: Owner of the Toes.
Peter Windeld The President's Trophy;
Dick Hern. International Trainer of the
Year: Michael Stoute. National Hunt
Jockey of the Year: Tony McCoy, Photographer of the Year: Mark Cranham. Flat
Jockey of the Year: Reren Fallon.
Services to international Racing: Geodiey
Gibbs. National Hunt Trainer of the Year:
Martin Pice. Stable Staff of the Year: Josk
Nelson (from Charles Brocks' yard) and
Eddie Wait (John Dunlop's yard) The
Cilve Graham Trophy for Journelist of the
Year: Rockey Massiers (Facing Post). Piet



Dual Cheitenham Festival winner Klairon Davis, noseband, tackles the Mitsubishi Shogun Tingle Creek Trophy Chase at Sandown on Saturday

Klairon Davis heads Sandown betting

BY OUR RACING STAFF

KLAIRON DAVIS, trained in Ireland by Arthur Moore, is the 7-4 favourite with Coral for the £53,000-added Mitsubishi Shogun Tingle Creek Tro-phy Chase at Sandown Park on Saturday. The company then bets: 11-4 Viking Flagship, 9-2 Mulligan, Or Royal, 6-1 Ask Tom, 20-1 Arctic Kinsman, 25-1 Indian Jockey, 33-1 Celibate, 66-1 Oh So Risky.

Klairon Davis, twice a winner at the Cheltenham Festival, in the Arkle Trophy and the Queen Mother Champion Chase, is trying for a third consecutive Irish success in the Tingle Creek after two victories by Sound

David Nicholson reduced his entry

to two, Mulligan and Viking Flagship, by withdrawing Storm Alert, who finished last of three last year. Call Equiname and the injured Martha's Son were also taken out of the twomile contest, leaving a field of nine. Nicholson has still to finalise jockey

plans for Viking Flagship and Mulligan, who were ridden by Richard Johnson and Adrian Maguire respec-

William Hill Haldon Gold Cup at Exeter. Viking Flagship attempts to repeat his 1994 victory in a race Nicholson has also won with Long Engagement (1987 and 89) and Waterloo Boy (1991 and 92).

Rough Quest, the 1996 Martell Grand National winner, is among ten

Newton Abbot abandoned

THE meeting at Newton Abbot today has been abandoned because of waterlogging. Mike Trickey, the clerk of the course, said yesterday: "The track was just about raceable on Sunday but we got another 0.6 inches of rain this

morning and that took it to saturation point

"We've had 4½ inches of rain since our last meeting in November and, although we were raceable yesterday, the latest rain tipped the balance."

il-year-old, off the course with a leg injury since finishing second in the King George VI Chase at Kempton last Boxing Day, delighted connections in a gallop on Sunday.
"We will make a decision on

whether he runs later in the week," Terry Casey, his trainer, said. "You have to take it day by day with a horse who has had problems but at the moment we are pleased with him."

Graham Bradley, successful on Suny Bay in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury last Saturday, s likely to ride Senor El Betrutti when the 33-I winner of the Murphy's Gold Cup last month returns to Cheltenham for the Tripleprint Gold Cup on Saturday week.

NEWCAS

12.20 French Holly 12.50 Gray Shot

1.55 Pentland Squire 2.25 Nigel's Lad 2.55 MAYSE O'GRADY (nep)

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.25 NIGEL'S LAD.

GUIDE TO OUR HALL MEDICES AND

Jones up U — insulated note: B — bacoptic down 5 — shoped up. B — macaptic down 5 — shoped up. B — macaptic down 5 — shoped up. B — macaptic downstried) Horse's name. Days since test outrop, F if flat B — binoless V — visior. H — Nood, E — Syepaneta. C — course without b — distance without CD — macaptic downstriance without CD —

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TOTE JACKPUT MEETING

12.20 NORTHERN RACING MOVICES HURDLE

(£2,379; 2m 4f) (15 runners)

SETTING: 4-9 Franch Holly, 10-1 Susta Bar, 12-1 Barton Stack, Saria Barbara, 14-1 Dan De Man, Young Tarno, 16-1 Porni Duty, 25-1 orders. 1996: BENGARS BANGLET 6-11-5 9 Guitas (9-2) P Benamont 19 am

FORM FOCUSE Are (2m. good). Point Ducy 151 4th of 6 to Make Stan in novice handle at Are (2m. good). Point Ducy 151 4th of 6 to Make Stan in novice handleso handleso handleso from a Carriste (2m 41 10)rd, good). Sunstrike 421 8th of 16 to Secret Service in maiden hundle at Kelso (2m 110)rd, good to soft) with Point Outre (same terms) 441 10th Sushi Bar 251 8th of 16 to Golden Helto in novice hundle at Newcastie (2m 110)rd, good Young Tomo 331 8th of 23 to Carrier to novice hundle at Watherby (2m. good to soft). FRENCH HOLLY has an excellent chance to tollow up his Ayr win

12.50 NEWCASTLE FLOORING AND HALSTEADS NOVICES HURBLE (£2,463 2m) (22 runners)

1996: ALABANG 5-11-5 P Yeven (10-11 lav) M Carractes 16 rate

FORM FOCUS

Alpine Hideaniny 181 5th of 21 to Flying North in novice hardle at Catenick (2m, good) with General Academy (same terms) 331 12m and Rashin Charge (levels) pulled up. Balkan Ministre 531 2m and Rashin Charge (levels) pulled up. Balkan Ministre 531 14 to Green Green Desent in maken hardle at Ultimater (2m, good to firm). Bitce Logana 291 6th of 14 to Green Green Desent in maken hardle at Ultimater (2m, good to firm). Grey Shot very small slayer on Flat J J Baboo 191 6th of 19 to French Holly in nonce hardle at Myr (2m, good). The Butterwick Not neck 2nd of 23 to Caulter in nonce hardle at Weitherby (2m, good). The Myrnyard Kolght best Roman Curlian Mit of Jacobs Not Rashin at 18 Jacobs (2m, good). The Maggy 1941 3rd of 14 to Hill Farm Blues in miners markle at Hardlook (2m, good). The maggy 1941 3rd of 14 to Green Myrnyard Rashin at Shaulid to law good). GREY SHOT, a smart Flat horse, should be too good for the experienced hurdlers

1.25 RAMSIDE EVENT CATERING HANDICAP CHASE

(£4,260 2m 110vd) (5 runners)

Long handicap Super Sandy 7-12 BETTRIG 5-4 ASSOCIACE, 7-2 Deat length, 4-1 Political Tower, Bold Boss, 10-1 Super Sandy. 1996. POLITICAL TOWER 9-11-10 A Daboin (6-4 ter) R Nexts 5 res

FORM FOCUS

Political Tower SI 2nd of 4 to Monntin Forte in handicup chase at Ayr (2m, good to soft), Anathranch hand Continent Hero 41 or 4-nmer handicap chase at Bangor (2m 11 110yd, good). Beld Boss chase in handicap chase at Ayr (2m 44, good to soft). Dual image 4¼1 4th of 5 to Chascher in handicap chase at Kewcastle (2m 110yd, good to fam). Super Sandy 21 2nd of 6 to lapotich in handicap chase at Herdam (2m 110yd, good to fam). ANABRANCH is taken to continue her winning turk

	0	OUR	SE S	PECIALIS	īs		
TRAINERS J Jeller Form Mr. 14 Revolve Rr. 15 Loven G Robert G Robert H & Estably J Forgesid	Wats 10 39 4 14 11	Ares 35 162 19 72 58 62	28.6 24.1 21.1 19.4 19.0 17.7	JOCKEYS P Niven P Carberry R Garriey L Wyer D Parker T Reed	Wines 41 6 13 15 15 13	Richard 198 229 351 351 352 354	29.7 20.7 76.0 16.0 15.6 15.5

1.55 LEVY BOARD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HAMDICAP HURDLE

(£2,201: 2m) (9 runners)

1996: KEMO SABO 4-10-5 D Palm (7-2) C Palm 6 (a) Our Kris 2% 6th of 10 to Silly Meney in handicap hurdle at Martan Rasan (2m 11 110yd, good). Toshiba Talk 1141 2nd of 12 to Stylich Interval in novice handicap hurdle at Cartensi (2m 61, good). Diamond Beach 351 5th of 9 to Fatehalitrain in novice handicap hurdle at Sectopleid (2m 11, good). Diamond Beach 351 5th of 9 to Fatehalitrain in novice handica st sedgefield (2m 11, good to fami). Tricentum pulled up in handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m, good to soft). Plusive Star best Cautier 1341 in 8-renter navice handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 1, good). Strong John 254 4th of 5 to Craigary in handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 11, good). Priddy Pair 531 5th of 6 to Silly Money in handicap burdle at Aintren (2m 110yd, good). Kildrumstry Castle 71 5th of 14 to Teejay'n alich in novice handicap hurdle at Perin (2m 110yd, good).

2.25 GOSFORTH PARK HANDICAP HURDLE (£3.274; 3m) (7 rumers)

#211V BREAT EASEBY 45F (CD.E.S) (D. Baley) W. Steney 7-12-0 ... R. Medicath (5)
21211- NBH AT THE TOP 311 (F.S) (Mrs. S. Balatatey) J. Luman 5-11-4 ... R. Supplin
21131- NBEL-3 LAD 45F (C.S) (N. Durmington) P. Histian S-11-4 ... M. Fester
1112/45 HST THE CANVAS 13 (F.S) (J. Michaell Nas M. Resetty 6-10-6 ... P. Histon
2105/10 ZAMPAREER 16 (C.D.F.S) (D. Baley) W. Starey 6-10-8 ... C. McCommax (7)
1107
1123-13 TOUGH TEST 15 (B.D.F.S.S) (J. Goodfellow) Ns. J. Goodfellow 7-10-8 ... Storily
-361225 DONT FURGET CURTIS 10 (D.S) (Mrs. K. Lamb) 1465 F. Lamb 5-10-8 ... Miles S. Lamb (7)
106 Long handicap: Zantemer 9-12, Tough Test 9-9, Door Forget Curts 8-5,

BETTIME: 6-4 Migel's kad, 2-1 inn Al The Top, 7-2 Greek Boomby, 14-1 Mil The Cames, 16-1 Zookhannor, 28-1 Yough Test, 33-1 Book Forget Custs. 1890: SEDMICTA 4-10-3 & Calub (6-5 fac) Mrs M Reveily 5 can

Great Esselby best Gillan Core sesk to 24-numer handicup hundle at Chellenham (3m 2), good to solt). Inn At The Top best Mighty good) Nigel's Lad best Samanid besten a distance in 5-numer prade it novice hundle at Doncaster (2m 4), good) Hit The Canvas 3SI 5th of 8 to Campaign in handicup hundle at Haydock (2m 7) 110yd, good) Zarnharsen 5SI 8th of 18 to Gobe Hanner in handicup hundle at Haydock (2m 7) 110yd, good) Tough Test 2BI 3dt of 5 to Rusty Blade in handicup chase at Peth (3m, good to limit) Cont Forget Curtin 34t 5th of 7 to Saucy Num in landicup handle at Catterick (2m 1) 110yd, good). GREAT EASEBY, Bit team the Flat, can make a wiening return to hundles

2.55 polyflor and newcastle flooring movices chase (£3,566: 3m) (10 runners)

1995; MAJORITY MAJOR 7-18-12 A S Stalin (14-1) P Cheestarugh 11 am Committed Schedule beal Durilla Casillo 23½ in 11-numer novice chase at Catterick (3m 11 110yd, good); previously beal Fern Leader (12b better off) neck in 10-numer maiden chase at Hedram (3m 11, good) Hicksons Choice pulled up in armitural hardicap chase at Sedgefel (3m 31, good). Over The Comb 381 3rd of 11 to fivey Smoke in novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good). Purrevalue unsected rider in novice chase at Marsalle (3m, good) are the Charm in novice chase at Huntingdon (3m, good). Stagets on a novice hand at Newcasile (3m, good to firm). Quital Crosssett beaten a distance 5th of 6 to Burtl lang in number arms at Newcasile (3m, good to firm). Quital Crosssett beaten a distance 5th of 6 to Burtl lang in number arms at Newcasile (3m, good to firm). Pall Tate neck 2nd of 19 to 8 but 18 but Charm in novice chase at Musselburgh (3m, good to firm). Tall Tate neck 2nd of 4 to Saun Fall to novice chase at Sedgefield (2m 3f, good)

COMMITTED SCHEDULE is progressing well and can complete a beakle

3.30 ST_MODWEN STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,413: 2m) (25 runners)

4-5 Kings Measure, 5-1 Opponius, B-1 Salpantin, 12-1 Chapters Assayson, Time Wheren We Trigger, What A Talk, 18-1 others. 1990: ACT LURPAK 4-11-4 P House (5-2 km) Mis M Reading 24 cas

All the state of t

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Folkestone

Jackpot not won toool of £15,788.23 carried forward to Newcastle today).

Goloc: good to soit 12.50 (2m 110yd India) 1, Ledgendry Line (P. Niver, 2-5 izn/: 2, Cauliur (8-1); 3, Fesson (16-1) 14 ran NR Justin Nice, 7, 8. Mrs. M. Revetey, Yole: \$1.50; \$1.10, \$2.00, \$2.60, \$1.90, \$1.70; \$4.40, \$1.60; \$5.80 \$1.00

(12.20) Newcastle)

French Holly won readily from Ledgendry Line in a fast time at Ayr 16 days ago and the runner op's success at Kelso yesterday tanderlined the form. A 780 penalty is unlikely to prevent him following up. Next best: Grey Shot

2.20 (3m et ch) 1, Cellidh Boy (B Storey, 13-2); 2, D'Arbiny Street (7-1), 3, Asi, Me Later (11-10 lev) 5 mm Nk, rk, Mrs. J. Goodlelow, Tote: 27-30, (2.10, 22-90 DF: 15.00 (3F £38.30)

Going: soft (beavy patiches)
12.40 (2m Indie) 1, Just Jaemine (R. Greene, 5-4 tax, Timeleeper's top rating);
2, Dutch Oyane (16-1); 3, Galecia (5-1), 5, ran NR: Hill Farm Blues (8, 1% K Bashop, Toter 22-40, \$1.10, 28-10 DF 99-00 CSF \$14.21.

1.40 (2m 41 hote) 1, Royale Angele (R Johnson, 8-13 law, Richard Evens's map), 2 Ares Soi II (8-1), 3, Chart Circute (14-1) 4 ran, 4, 5+ hd J. Newlle, Tote: £1,70, DF: £4 20 CSF: £5,31. 2.10 (2m 7/ 110)d chr 1, Smisson (A Magure, 6-3); 2, Decylary (4-7 tax) 2 ran. 17th J Old, Tole, £1.50. 17f. J. LIID. 1082 E.1.5U. 2.40 (2m 4f.hdle) 1. Easy Feelin (A Maguie, 1-7 (ae), 2. Good Lord Murphy (8-1), 3. Felding (66-1), 5 ran 31, dest. D. Nicholson Tote £1.10; \$1.00, \$2.50 DF: £1.40, CSF. E1.704 3.10 (2m cth) T, Tidatbrook (Mr R Waldey, 11.8 July; 2, Handdeld (2-1); 3, Wet Timed (9-2) 5 ran 3 vt. 3 vt. K Bailey Tota 52.10 C1 10, E1.80 DF, 52.20 CSF 54.00 3.40 (2m fast 1. Festive Testi R Massey, 46 fast, 2 Duribury Pyer (8-1); 3, Beely Nova (9-7), 8 ma. 124, 191 D Netholson, Tole, £1.70, £1.40, £1.30 OP; £3.60. CSF £5.09.

Placepost 520.10

RACING AHEAD Robert Wright

2.00 (2m ch) 1. Antonso Mariano (j. Aspail 5-2 lavr; 2, Derng King (20-1); 3, Keep Me In Merd (11-2) 5 ans 71, 121, P Mooney, Total 23 90, 17 90, 05 50; 130 DF C16 so CSS 542 (D. Tricket: 6298.58)

28 10. CSF: C14.86 Tecnal - C51 OS
3.00 (3m 21 ch) 1, Dream Leader (M A
Forcessio) - 7-22; 2, Secret Bid (10-1); 3, Lay it
OB (4-1), Jac Del Prince 9-4 tav. 9 ran. 2, 7.
M Roberts Tota - C52 O. C57 O. C2.10
OP: 519.0. The 542.20 CSF: C55.78.
Tricest £136.15
3.30 (2m 11 110yd faill 1, Pennywise (S
Kally, 10-1); 2, Deep C Date (4-1 j-lay); 3,
Lamba's Coursei (4-1 j-lay), 14 ran 19-1, 14
Moss V Witterns Totar £11 60; £3 30, £2 00,
£1 40 DF: £24.70. Trice - S59 80, CSF.
E51.97

Kelso

E4 48. 1.20 (3m 11 chi 1, Young Kenny (F Supple, 4-7 tay); 2, Miliany Academy (2-1); 3, Dette Marshali (25-1), 8 ran, Dist, chat, P Bealamont, Tote £1 70; £1 20, £1 70, £2 60 DF: £2 60 CSF £1 87 1.50 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Common Sound (C McCommack, 6-1), 2, Rachael's Owen (7-1); 3, Chara King (2-1 lav), 7 ran Hd, 13. J

RICHARD EVANS Nap: French Holly

(12.50 Newcastle)

Bardey Tote: 54.90; 52.90, 52.80, DF-513.20 CSF- 538.36 2.50 (2m 6t 110)rd haller 1, Cash Box (H Smath, 6-5 teers 2, Ralleger (4-1), 3, Morshaer (6-4) 3 ran NR: Unfeitnen 3, diet. T Carr Tote: £160 DF 53.20, CSF

21 bis. 2.20 (2m 6f 110yd hdie) 1, The Kholmoe (Mr C. Wisson, 7-1). 2. Microbiony (25-1). 3, Young Steven (16-1), Global Legend Evens. 9 can 140, 181. Mrs. A Swittbank, Toto. 57.30, 52.30, 51.20, 52.70. DF 5121.00 (SF: \$139.38, Tror \$403.50. Placapot: £1,467.90 Quadoot: £575.30. Worcester

1.10 (2m 4f 110)(d th) 1, Escarintique (A Magure, 1-3 tay); 2, Derham Hill (6-1); 3, General Tonic (12-1), 4 ran 6f, 6f D Nicholson, Tota, 51.20, DF- 51.70 CSF-

uggests the best value in the ante-post market

WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE Sandown Park, December 6

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

Make A Stand, went on to win the Champion Hurdle. While it is unlikely that this Seturdey's victor will reach such dizzy heights. the race has once again attracted a competitive field. The weights and the betting are headed by Grimes, who has een highly touged since beating the Tritimph Hendle winner, Commenche Court, in taking style at Leopardstown last month While that form gives him a major change, he would not appreciate too much such that appreciate too much such that are ground and may find his speed

LAST season the winner of the Wilflam Hill Handicap Hurdle,

blunted by the stiff finanting hill at Sandown. Stormyle-investmer, an easy wiener at Newbury last Friday, and the David Nicholson-trained Potter's Gale, impressive at Leiceste last time, will both find this which more competitive and make little appeal at single figure cods.

Carito Brigante proved too strong for Doctoor in the Imperial Cup over course and distance in March, and west on to finish second to Barna Boy in the County Hurdle at the Chaltanham Festival. He would have claims on those efforts, but showed lift

Supreme November Hard Cheltenham. Unsuited by the slow early pace when second to Eli Agapi Mou on his reappearance of Ascot, tie will be far better suited by the large field and strong pace at Sandown on Seturday. At 10-1, PRINCEFUL rates good

LINGFIELD PARK

Challe .

Korowi washing a second

Carlito Brigante

Ele Agaol Mon

11.40 Welcome Heights. 12.10 Begshot. 12.40 Eastern Prophets, 1.10 Eithe Hope, 1.45 Harpoon Louis. 2.15 Temptress. 2.45 Kalimat. 3.20 Dovebrace.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

11.40 MARSH GREEN HANDICAP

(Div t: £2,518: 1m 2f) (12 runners) (5) 121- ADAMTON 328 (CDF) Mrs J Deck 5-18-0 8 Melketum (5) 0350 KALEY SENGR 22 (D.5) R Arastong 4-10-0 D Regus (6) 0300 TESUS OF LIES 22 (D.5) R Arastong 4-10-1 M Testum (7) 40002 CLUSSIC PROD 28 (D.F) Par Macries 4-9-1 M Fentum (3) 045 SAMOY SADDLER 103 5 Dow 3-9-6 . R Pertum (1) 4051 MASSYAR SEVENTIEEN 14 (CD) H College 3-9-6 R Fiench (3) 99

7 (12) 0281 BATAAN 31 (8) A Vandarbanghan (8b) 6-9-4 M Servando 8 (11) 4-85 BBLADDIE 253 (C) 8 Pomer 4-8-13 ... A Clark 9 (2) 4502 WELCOME HERSHIS 22 (C,S) M F-Godler 3-8-12 F Norton 10 (7) 0023 WELCOME HERSHIS 22 (C,S) M F-Godler 3-8-12 F Norton 10 (8) 0330 DOZIENT (2) (C,F,S) Lichto Denty 3-8-5 ... T Wilkinston (9) 002/ENT (2) (C,F,S) Lichtogape Hall 8-7-10 F M Dutte (7) 12 (30) 00000 I SEE YOU SYDNEY 17 M Polysics 3-7-10 ... J Licote 1-2 (Licote St. Advances 4-3 (Licote Red 1-2) (1) 12 (1) 12 (1) 12 (1) 13 (1) 1

12.10 MEDWAY SELLING STAKES

(Div I: £1,649: 1m) (10)

3-1 Statistics, 4-1 Bayahat, 6-1 Patrick, 7-1 Magazine Gip, Lean Sally, 8-1 No. Hubbayatts, 10-1 Lindytonies, 12-1 arters. 12,40 ANTELOPE HANDICAP (£2,778: 51) (10) 1 (4) 6155 HMLF TONE 50 (8.DOLFG.S) & Flower 5-9-13 A Clark 62 2 (6) 0002 EASTERN PROPHETS 17 (0.F.S) 6 (ems 4-9-1) (2) 0083 TEAR WHITE 14 (D.F.) 1 Mail: 3-9-12 Lea Hacker (7) 67 (10) 2-233 MIDTHER BATCHWARTH 25 (B.D.F.) E Wiseles 5-9-11 (C.D.F.) 1 Mortager Hall 4-9-7 (C.D.F.) 1 Mortager Hall 4-9-7 (F.D.F.) 1 Mortager Hall 4-9-7 (F.D.F.) 1 Mortager Hall 4-9-7 (G.D.F.) 1 Mortager Hall 4-9-7 (G 7 (7) -5221 NAVASHA SE (D.C.D.F.G) & Vandestarghen (Bell 8-9-4

7-2 Augine: Adicionario 9-2 Easiem Propiets, 5-1 Half Tore, 13-2 Beau Veniure 7-1 Tear Milite 8-1 Michaght Times, 12-1 Aust Desadent, Lucy in The Sty, 14-1 1.10 CHRISTMAS BOX CLARMING STAKES

79, 4125 SALTY BEHAWORF 28 (0.F.5) R Hamon 3-9-5 (R Smith (7) 72 (13) 6015 MICKATO 14 (8.9F.C.F) A hory 3-9-3 P Roberts (3) 78 (14) 0030 LIDHWAY STACEATO 4 (8.6.5) R O'Smithon 3-6-13 (S) 2001 MINE'S DOUBLE 14 (B.D) Miss & Rationary 3-8-13

(11) 0000 BLITE HOPE 17 (D.G) it Thicks 5-3-12 D Markeous (3) [3] (1) 0000 BLITE HOPE 17 (D.G) it Thicks 5-3-12 D Markeous (3) (2) 0114 CHALLE 14 it Suite 3-4-11 B Callaghan (7) 71 (2) 2800 LFT 807 25 (C.D.F.G) 61 Moor 8-9 3 ... Candy Maries 30 (1) 0600 Minut THE BEAT 11 (D.F.G.S) M Mende 7-8-9 8 Rechard (1)
9 6: 2008 WYSTICAL 14 (Y.D.G.S) Mrs.L Subix 3-8-8 S Withouth
10 (12) 5-800 MAMOU.0 41 (F) J Burn 4-8-5 ... P Bradiay (7)
11 44 2500 SR TASKER 75 (CD.F.G.) J1 Heris 9-8-3 . R Winston (5)
12 30 0686 WANCERS DREAM 65 (E.D.F) Par Machell 8-8-1
American Saperes

on his reappearance as Charleshard less month: Princeful, unbestog in two bumpers, ran a cracker on his third

1.45 MEDWAY SELLING STAKES (9) 2/ THE MERRY MONK 616.1 D Mome 6-8-12 N P McCate (3) (2) (2000 ARABON 39 (8.6) Mc: L Sodos 3-8-11 S Winnest (3) 4006 TALISMAN 11 (8) S Don 3-8-11 P Doe (7) (5) 0000 HADADABELE 15.1 (N P M Method 4-67 M Fentur 1) 4400 THE OF MERT IS J For 4-6-7 T Williams (6) 0406 MISSION HSIGHTS 14 K Barks 3-8-6 T Williams

3-1 Harpson Louie, 7-2 Rocky Waters 5-1 Miskin Heights, 8-1 Talicman, 7-1 Hadadabbia, 10-1 Logie Pert Lad. Munidin, 12-1 others

2.15 MARSH GREEN HANDICAP (Div II: £2,505; 1m 2f) (12)

P McCaba (3) 39

9-2 Paleander, 6-1 White Plans, 13-2 Sweet Suppose, 7-1 Sex Danzy, Temphobs, 8-7 Zerra, 10-1 Europer Boy, Missile Tee, Great Chief, 14-1 others 2.45 UCKFIELD MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0. £2,294 · 1m) (8)

3.20 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (Qualifier £3,566; 71) (13)

(9) 2551 APOLLO RED 4 (CD.F) 6 Naove 8-10-6 ... Camby Mores [85] (13) 1310 VICTORY TEAM 31 (C.D.F.G) 6 Batting 5-9-12 8 (4) 5050 LANCASHARE LEGENO 4 (CD) S Dow 4-8-13
9 (6) 4000 GF LA HIGH 8 (C) M Meade 4-8-13 R Brisland (7) 75
10 110 10054 SALTY JACK 14 (F) V Score 3-8-13 R Perham 79
11 (12) 0000 NI CHS SAGA 155 (C.D) 6 L Moore 5-8-12 S Whatword NI (2) 77, 2100 SHAPP MP 84 (B.C.D.) 6 R Power 7-8-9 A Clark 65
13 (6) 0600 SLEVENAMON 8 (B) R SINGCON 4-7-10 NI Cartiste 63

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Barron, 10 ennoers from 33 numers, 30 3%, V Soate, 4 form 16, 25 8%, J Betry 38 from 178, 21 3%, Lord Huntingdon, 49 from 243, 20 2%, R Amistrong, 17 from 94, 18,1%, JOCKEYS: (Imbertey Hart, 3 ennres from 4 ides, 75 8% D McKenen, 23 from 35, 17 0%, N F hench, 8 from 53, 15 1%, S Wholevorth, 40 from 293, 13 7%, R Lappin, 6 from 47, 12 8%



Mushtaq waits to pile on pain for West Indies

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN RAWALPINDI

IT IS becoming difficult to describe the condition of West Indies cricket without sounding either maudlin or condescending. Pakistan battered them yesterday, scoring 281 runs on the third day of the second Test despite losing 30 overs to overnight dew and, later, bad light. They lost only one wicket in doing so, so thoroughly did bat master

So far this game has lost 40 overs but Pakistan, who carry a lead of 100 into the last two days and have seven wickets in hand, could still win. When West Indies begin their second innings with survival in mind they will be confronted by Mushtaq Ahmed, whose ten wickets routed them in Peshawar.

The men who supplied that lead made hundreds of immense personal value. Aamir Sohail, the left-handed opener who said recently that he would never play again for his country, had gone 17 Tests without one and was fortunate to retain his place. Inzamam-ul-Haq. oddly, had never before made one in Pakistan, all five before this



Mahmood 4 tot 53)
PAIQSTAN: First thrings
Saeed Anwar c Williams b Ambrose
Asmir Sohal c sub b Walsh
liaz Anmed c Wallace b Rose
inzamam-ul-Hag not out
Mohammad Wasm not out Edias (b 8, ib 7, w 6, nb 24)

BCNUNG Walsh 28-6-105-1; Ambrose 19-2-63-1; Bishop 19-1-74-0; Rose 22-2-75-1 Hooper 17-1-71-0.

coming overseas. A stand of 323, a Pakistan record for the third wicket against West Indies, made up for it all. Aamir, who launched his innings on Sunday night with some flashy strokes, showed greater control yesterday as he went through to 160, though

he made liberal use of the pull shot until he mistimed a hook to Simmons, the substitute fielder, at backward point. It was a good catch, quite out of keeping with some of the sioppiness on view. inzamam's hundred

his folly. When he is captain he will not be happy if his players commit howlers like To concede 400 runs at four an over is as bad in its way as being dismissed for 151, as West Indies were in Peshawar. Like the batting, their bowling lacked discipline, as a tally of 24 no-balls and six wides

Each day there is fresh evidence of a team falling apart. At Peshawar it was the sight of Lewis, the leg spinner, bowling round the wicket to contain Inzamam, who was batting on one leg. The giveaway moment yesterday came in the second over with the new ball when Bishop bowled a ball that went for four wides.

Long before the end, they were simply going through the motions, clueless as to how to take wickets, restrain the batsmen or even prevent the singles that Amir and Inzamam ran at will. They will do well to save this game, however good the pitch. This side is rotten to the core.



Twose's despairing dive for the crease proves in vain as Steve Waugh removes the bails to run him out for 29

Warne thwarted by final pair

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

SIMON DOULL and Shayne O'Connor, the New Zealand last pair, clung on for 38 minutes, during which 10.4 overs were bowled, to deny Australia victory in the third and final Test in Hobart yesterday. After being set 288 to win in what proved to be 61 overs. New Zealand finished at 223 for nine, their two fast bowlers combining to defy the best efforts of Shane Warne. who took five for 88.

O'Connor survived a frantic appeal for a bat-pad catch from Warne's last ball of the day and Doull was dropped by Simon Cook off Warne's bowling with 25 minutes remaining.

Mark Taylor, the Australia captain, countered criticism that the target he set was too stiff. "We weren't bowled out

twice in the series and it would have been disappointing only to win it 2-1," he said. "If New Zealand were going to win this .

match they were going to have to work pretty hard." Yet it looked as if an upset might be on the cards when New Zealand had 50 on the board without loss off 31 balls

makeshift opener, was electrifying in the first five overs. flaying Michael Kasprowicz and Paul Reiffel to all parts of the lush Bellerive Oval.

Although Kasprowicz was withdrawn after conceding 33 runs in three overs, Reiffel broke the opening partnership

HOBART SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First framge 400 (M T G Elect 114, G S Biewelt S9, M E Waugh 81). Second framge "M A Textor not out 65 M E Waugh flow b O'Connor 9 G S Biewelt b Vettor 58 R Waugh not out 2 Estres (b 4, fb 1) 5

Total (2 with disc) 138 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-108. NEW ZEALAND; First Invinge 251-6 date (M J Home 133)

P Fleming at Heely b Wenter D McMillen e Taylor b Wenter A Young a Ponting b Wenter A C Parone a Elliott b Wenter ...

BOWLING: Kasprowicz 3-0-33-0; Relfiel 14-2-47-2; Warne 26-6-66-6; M.E. Waugh 6-1-49-0; Cook 4-0-17-0; S.R. Weugh 6-4-10-

work against batsmen committed to attack. The New Zealand captain, Stephen Fleming, who was stumped aiming an expansive drive at the leg spinner, said that although the target had ap-peared steep it had forced his side to adopt a more aggres-sive approach. "We made a conscious decision. We decided to treat it as a 60-over, oneday game," he said.

New Zealand continued in swashbuckling style until Adam Parore, the last of the recognised batsman, fell to a spectacular diving catch in the outfield by Matthew Elliott. he declared Australia's second

Taylor was 66 not out when innings at 138 for two, throwing open a game that had suffered badly from weather interference during its first

Fearnley looks to lalcolm ening

WORCESTERSHIRE announced yesterday that they hope to sign Devon Makolm in time for the start of next season. Malcolm is in his benefit year with Derbyshire, but has been a free agent since November I and is understood to be keen to make the move to New Road.

Duncan Feamley, the Worcestershire chairman, confirmed the county's interest and said that be was "optimistic" about landing the 34-year-old England fast bowler. Although Worcestershire played down speculation in September that they intended to sign Malcolm, Fearnley said yesterday: Things have changed a lot since that stage and he's the man our cricket committee are looking to

"We've made it quite clear that we want a new strike bowier, although I've been in the game so long now to know that you don't take anything for granted until you see the contract signed.

"Our captain, Tom Moody, made it known that he wanted a strike bowler who could knock nine, ten, jack over, because we often got down to six or seven wickets and then could not polish things off. We finished third in the championship despite that, but, if we had had someone like Devon Malcoim, we could have WOR IL"

Wordstershire's main rivals for Malcolm's signature are Northamptonshire, who have aiready reinforced their bowling with the signing of Paul Reiffel, the Aus-

"We are still hopeful of signing Devon, but nothing has been finalised as Steve Coverdale, the Northamptonshire chief executive, said. We are still at the talking stage and we are hoping to see him again later this week."

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER

Inzamam pulls Walsh for six over mid-wicket yesterday

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LUXEMBOURG	(LFr)	9164	65%	5040	2635	2611
NETHERLANDS	(DFI)	778	56%	428	224	188
SPAIN	(PTS)	75299	26%	41414	21648	17143
SWEDEN	(SKr)	5232	14%	2878	1504	1056
SWITZERLAND	(SFr)	809	49%	A45	232	177
REST OF EUROPE	(£)	474		261	136	130
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The London Trophy Bridge Competion is for "non-bridge" clubs, typically termis and golf clubs where bridge is played. This year Hilton Hotels sportsored the event. This is a hand from the final. Although I played in Demetri Marchessini's "Naturals" team (no artificial bids allowed) in the Lederer Memorial Trophy. I think there is a place for simple conventions. Stayman, Blackwood, splinter bids and negative doubles in my view are all that are needed on top of natural methods to make a system 95 per cent as effective as the full Meckwell. Stayman does have its downside, as this hand I kibitzed recently illustrates.

Deale	r South	Rubb	er bridge	e Lo	ive a
		*1043 *1043			
	±QJ1093 ▼K76 ■¶5 +J65		#75 ¥542 +A43 #KQB	A7.	
	7102	+K2 VAQ10 +KQJ86		:	
s	v		N	. E	
2 MT	P	255	3 C 3 H7	Double	
Contra	ct: Three No-	Trumpe by So	outh. Le	ed: then of club	

With his six-card diamond have four or more clubs, to suit South was well worth a Two No-Trump opening. I think it is correct to use Stayman Three Clubs (asking the opener to bid a four-card major) on the North hand.

However, that allowed East to get in a double, thus drawing the best lead from West and giving declarer no chance in Three No-Trumps. A "natural" pair would bid 2 NT - 3 NT, and West would lead the queen of spades. That gives South an easy route to nine tricks.

By the way, what are the meanings of bids by South over the double of Three Clubs? The common-sense approach is to redouble if you

pass with three clubs and no major, to bid a four-card major if you have one or to bid a decent diamond suit if you have none of the above. After Clubs over Two No-Trumps he is prepared for any of those

The Times Book of Bridge 1, compendium of some of Robert Sheehan's daily columns, is now available in all good bookshops or direct from the publisher, B. T. Batsford. on 01376 321276, price £6.99 (plus El postage and packing).

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

STATUSY a. The Carthaginian War Council b. Conferring status TARBAGAN a. A ghost b. A dance

a. Exhausted b. A board game c. An antelope TANSU

a. A chest of drawers b. Chinese shorthand c. A martial art with sticks



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Anand's reverse

The sole defeat suffered by cowinner Viswanathan Anand in the Belgrade tournament came in his game against French grandmaster Joel Lautier.

Lautier employed the sharp Sveshnikov variation of the Sicilian Defence in which Black routinely sacrifices pawn structure, and often material, in order to fight for the initiative.

The double-edged nature of this variation is typical of the approach to the openings pop-ular with the young generation of grandmasters White: Viswanathan Anand

Black: Joel Lautier Belgrade, November 1997 Sicilian Defence

7 Bf4 8 Bg5 9 Na3 10 Bxf6 13 cxb5 14 Bd3 23 Rc1 24 Ne4 25 Oxe1 26 Nc5 27 Bc4 28 Ne6 29 Bxe6 30 Qc4 37 Bd5 38 Bb7 39 Qd8



After, for example 42 Qg4 Black wins with 42 ... Rxf2 43 Rxf2 d1Q+. Alternatively if 42 Qxe4 dlQ gives Black a huge material advantage.

Fide championship Several British grandmasters are seeded into the Fide (world federation) championship which starts in Gromingen, Holland, next Monday, They include Peter Wells, Michael Adams, Matthew Sadler and Nigel Short.

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzle from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's dai-ly column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing). ☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINDOWS MOVE

By Raymond Keene

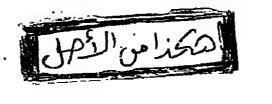
White to play. This position is from the game Speelman -Knox, British Championship

The black king has been driven up the board into enemy territory. How did White now close the mating net?



home-bred talen Meelers cutting

Sea anglers



MOTOR RACING

Tobacco money buys last place on starting grid

By Michael Calvin

THE door to a closed shop will be wedged open with a reassuringly thick chequebook today, when a new Formula One team, built around the world champion, Jacques Villeneuve, and the global marketing strategy of the tobacco industry, is unveiled in

It will be a discreet little affair, an anodyne chat show staged at the BBC Radio Theatre for 230 guests, flown in from five continents. It will he broadcast live, in both aural and video form, on the Internet, and will also be transmitted free of charge for television stations on five

The inherent ironies of the necasion will be studiously ignored. It matters not a jot that the BBC lacks the financial clout to compete for the rights to show the grands prix in which the new team, funded by £200 million from British American Tobacco (BAT), will compete from 1999.

The principal characters in the project. Craig Pollock, Villeneuve's manager, and Adrian Reynard, the Bicesterbased car builder, are interested only in credibility. That can be purchased initially, most likely in a deal to buy out the Tyrrell team, but eventually it will have to be proved in the most unforgiving of sporting environments.

No one in Formula One remembers recently failed teams such as Simtek, Pacific and Lola, unless it is with a cynical smile or a supercitious comment. No one cares about unfulfilled hopes, the burden of insurmountable debt. Image is all: cash and contacts are everything.

Pollock's mastery of the art of the deal has taken him a long way since he first met Villeneuve, as his teacher at a boarding school in Switzerland. A former ski instructor, he became a close friend before he developed into his business adviser.

His stewardship of Villeneuve's career, through initial contacts with Reynard in IndyCar racing, has been impeccable. He has forged an alliance with the influential Julian Jacobi, a former aide to Ayrton Senna, and beat off a

variety of suitors for the BAT money, including David Richards, the new chief executive at

Richards estimates that the minimum initial investment required for a new Formula One ream, before a wheel is turned in anger, is £50 million. The early Nineties, when Ed-die Jordan launched his eponymous team on little more than £5 million and an avalanche of Guinness and goodwill, are ancient history.

Even the remarkable con-

tacts of Jackie Stewart, whose transformation from triple world champion to global businessman reached its logical conclusion with his establishment of Stewart Grand Prix a year ago, are unable to miarantee success.

He persuaded Ford to invest £100 million in his enterprise but, having taken a decision to reject the nicotine-stained comfort blanket of tobacco money, he remains vulnerable. The latest blow, the ending of a E5 million sponsorship package with the Malaysian Government, merely accentuated his problems.

The protracted negotiations for Pollock to purchase what is effectively Ken Tyrrell's For-One franchise convential widsom suggests it will be worth between £30 and £30 million to Tyrrell - is a taste of things to come.

There is overwhelming support within the 11 existing



Villeneuve: new team

teams for making Formula One prohibitively expensive to enter. With television income soaring - even the least successful team. Minardi, is thought to be guaranteed £75 million over five years - the FIA, motorsport's governing body, is considering demand ing a £16 million deposit from

The official line is that such impositions are designed to encourage commercial confidence. With its image tainted by the Schumacher affair, Formula One must avoid the embarrassment of underfunded initiatives. The fiasco in the sponsorship deal with Mastercard sent Lola's parent company into administration. is still keenly felt.

But, as with everything in

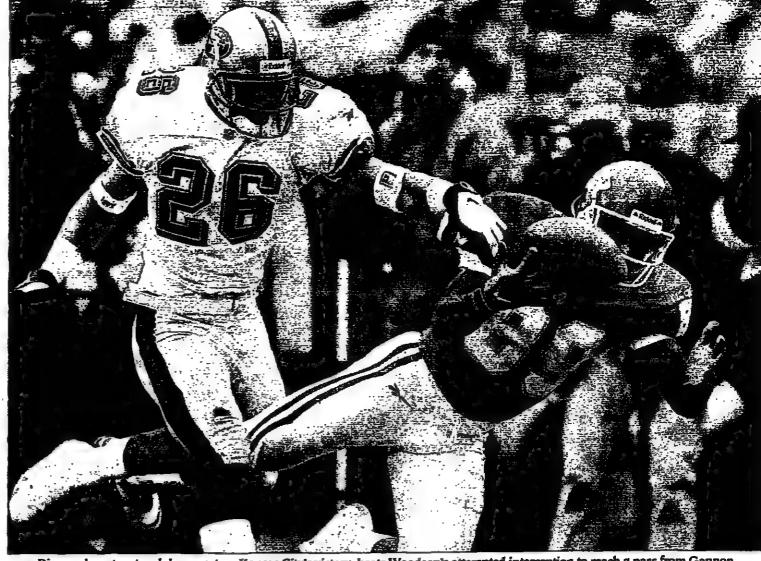
any new outfit.

Formula One, the stench of self-interest is overpowering. In simple terms, the present team owners do not want competitors fuelled by desperate ambition. Such rivals threaten to drain finite financial resources and, by offering cut-price deals, reduce the bargaining power of established teams

The moral debate about the utilisation of tobacco money. which will generate renewed rancour when European Union health ministers meet on Thursday, is an irrelevance. It is, of course, all a matter of money, Formula One is slowly abandoning the pretence of being anything other than a global business. which happens to produce outstanding television ratings.

Even Stewart admits "it's like joining a secret society". He believes setting up a suc-cessful new team is " almost impossble to achieve". Jordan suggests "Jackie Stewart and myself are the last two people who will be able to start a new team from scratch" No one is inclined to argue.

but Pollock has Villeneuve. whose status is unchallengable. The champion has contractual obligations to defend the title with Williams next year, so he will play the role of the ghost at today's feast. Everyone will genuflect before his image, and pretend they



Rison, whose two touchdowns set up Kansas City's victory, beats Woodson's attempted interception to reach a pass from Gannon

Chiefs lay perfect ambush for 49ers

BY OUVER HOLF

THE San Francisco 49ers have been smashing franchise records all season and on Sunday they broke another one. This time, though, instead of surpassing a mark of excellence, the team that has been leading the charge towards the Super Bowl with a superlative unbeaten run plumbed the depths of mediocrity. Just when the 49ers were

beginning to achieve a Manchester United-like invincibility that had made them impervious to defeat since the opening day of the season and carried them past 11 successive opponents, they fell to a startlingly heavy defeat to the Kansas City Chiefs in Missouri, which soured their earlier securing of the National Football Conference (NFC) Western divi-

San Francisco are still play-off bound, still the only team to have claimed a division title, but unexpected

doubts have surfaced about whether they have the consistency to last the course as the best team in the National Football League. Against Kansas, they collapsed to a 44-9 defeat.

The loss was their worst for 17 years, the most shattering regular-season reverse since they lost 59-14 to the Dalias Cowboys in 1980, "In 1987, we tore through the league and then got punched in the mouth in the play-offs," Steve Young, the 49ers' quarter-back, said. "In 1994, we got punched in the regular season. Today, this was like three punches in the mouth all at once.

The Chiefs, whose victory leaves them with a 10-3 record and keeps them hard on the heels of the Denver Broncos in the American Football Conference (AFC) Western division, played to the limit of their potential. "We played as well today as I think we can play," Marty Schottenheimer, their coach, said. "There's clearly not that

kind of points differential between us and that team on the other side. It was just one of those days. Things went OUT Way."

His opposite number, Steve Mariucci, admitted that "the wheels had come off and then it snowballed". The Kansas City quarterback, Rich Gannon, deputising for the injured Elvis Grbac, passed for three touchdowns and Andre Rison, formerly of

Results and tables ...

the Green Bay Packers, caught five passes for 117 yards, including two touch-downs of six and 29 yards. "It is not hard to get on the

same wavelength as that guy Rison," Gannon said. "He is a great player with a great pedigree and a major-league motor. He makes my job a lot easier and today it was an race for the rushing title. absolute pleasure. We are having a good season, we are still right in there and things

are getting better all the The Chiefs would have

gone into the joint lead in the AFC West had the Broncos not continued their own impressive season with a 38-28 victory over the San Diego Chargers that ensured they became the first team to join the 49ers in the play-offs. With AFC East teams such as the Buffalo Bills, New York Jets and New England Patriots sinking into a threeway tie, the Broncos and the Chiefs look the best bets to challenge the NFC might of

the Packers and the 49ers. John Elway, the Broncos' quarterback, threw for 240 yards and three touchdowns in the victory in San Diego, the Super Bowl host city, and Terrell Davis ran for 178 yards, increasing his season's total to 1,647 and moving him back ahead of Barry Sanders, of the Detroit Lions, in the

After a promising start, the

Chargers have now lost five

BOXING

matches in a row.

Back east, the Jets were left teetering on the verge of their first winning season for a decade when they failed to beat their bitter rivals, the Buffalo Bills, in New York. The Bills, just playing for pride now, beat the Jets for the sixth time in a row, this time 20-10.

The Tampa Bay Bucca-neers, perennial also-rans, did manage to move beyond the eight-win mark with a convincing victory over the New York Giants which edged them to within one win of the play-offs with three games remaining. The vic-tory made it their first win-

ning season for 15 years. There was no game for the Dallas Cowboys at the weekend but last week, in one of the traditional Thanksgiving Day matches, they fell to another embarrassing loss. this time at the hands of the unremarkable Tennessee Oilers. They must now win all of their remaining games to have a chance of making

ICE HOCKEY

Home-bred talent gives Steelers cutting edge

By Norman de Mesquita

THE Superleague reverted to its normal, low-scoring ways at the weekend and the two games played on Sunday saw little to choose between the competing teams.

Cardiff Devils heat Bracknell Bees

3-1 and Sheffield Steelers edged out Newcastle Cobras 3-2, but they needed overtime to do so.

With so few British players competing at the top level in British ice hockey. it is encouraging to see Sheffield's home-bred contingent contributing so much to their success and, on Sunday, Nicky Chinn scored the overtime winner. Tony Hand secred the goal early in the third period that brought the Steelers level after they had been two goals in arrears and David Longstaff assisted on two of the three Sheffield goals.

Newcastle, having flattered to deceive with two narrow wins after Dale Lambert took over as coach, have lost four in a row in league and cup and are in danger of losing touch with the other seven teams. They have only five points from 13 games and are six points behind. Basingstoke Bison, their

nearest rivals. Ivan Matulik, who missed ten games last month through illness, is back to his best and the Cardiff captain scored two of his team's three goals against Bracknell. Tony Circelli had given Cardiff the lead midway through the first period but Bracknell's latest recruit, Colin Ward, equalised early in the second.

Matulik ensured that Cardfiff took the points and, with games in hand of all their rivals, they are now threatening in lifth position.

Manchester Storm face an important European League game this evening, at home to Bolzano, it is a game they must win to retain a chance of qualifying for the knockout stages of the competition. Unfortunately, their form has dipped recently and they have won only twice in their past seven

Game in turmoil after executive's dismissal

SNOOKER

BY PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY, the world champion on six occasions, led the criticism yesterday of the decision by the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA), the governing body, to dismiss its recently appointed chief executive. Jim

"I'm outraged by what's happened. Our sport is poisoned from top to bottom," Hendry said, incensed by the decision taken at a WPBSA board meeting in Preston. "Jim was the man to take the game into the modern era. We desperately need good manage-ment if it is to go forward. The players have already removed one board who weren't in tune with modern business demands and now we find ourselves in

a similar position once again."
In a startlingly uninformative,
41-word statement, the WPBSA refused to give any reason for the sacking. Itz did announce that the present WPBSA secretary, Martyn Blake, will become acting chief executive.

Although McKenzie has had his differences with Rex Williams, who is seven months into his second stint as WPBSA chairman, he said he was "astonished" by the whole affair. "At no time have I been given the opportunity to respond to any criticisms the board may have of my performance. Nor am I aware of any,

McKenzie said. Ian Doyle, head of a management stable that includes Hendry, Ronnie O'Sullivan and nine of the world's top 16 players, is to lodge a demand for a special general meeting to seek the removal of Williams and two other board members, Jim Meadowcroft and Bob Close. Joe Beeston, managing director of Highland Spring, said his company will withdraw sponsorship of the Scottish Open.

"War has been declared," Doyle, ironically the most influential figure behind the election of Williams as chairman, said. "It's a truly disgraceful

Pazienza may offer route to riches for Reid or Calzaghe

By SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

ONE of two British supermiddleweights could be the next opponent for Virmy Pazienza if the American beats Herol Graham at Wembley Arena on Saturday.
Either Robin Reid, of Runcorn, the World Boxing

Council (WBC) champion, or Joe Calzaghe of Newbridge, South Wales, the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) title-holder, could secure the bout. Panix Promotions, of London, and Banner Promotions, based in the United

States, are prepared to offer Reid or Calzaghe \$1 million (about £600,000) to meet Pazienza in the United States. Pazienza, who is in London to put the finishing touches to his preparations for Graham. said he wanted to challenge Reid "as the green of the WBC belt matches the coldur of my couch at home". Pazienza's promoter, Art Pelullo, said that he had had talks with Frank Warren, who promotes

Reid and Calzaghe, and War-ren had seemed interested in Warren said: I have had talks but they are not in the driving seat. I am." It will be interesting to see which light Warren takes. While Pazienza clearly sees Reid's style as ideal for him, the American is a perfect opponent for Calzaghe. The Welshman has the speed and power ito over-

whelm Pazienza.

Warren said his decision would be made after seeing Pazienza's performance on Saturday. But if either of the British champions were to meet Pazienza and Win, they could become high-profile boxers in the United States. Vinny is the second most popular fighter on cable television at home," Pelullo said. "If either Reid or Calzaghe beats him they could become huge." However, Warren insisted: "My fighters will fight

If Pazienza heats Graham. he is likely to be ranked in the top five by all four world organisations. Graham is ranked No 4 by the WBC. Pazienza arrived in London on Sunday. Fortified by his visit to the erotica exhibition at

Olympia, with his London promoter, Frank Maloney, as his guide, he starts training at the Fitzroy Lodge gym in Lambeth today. Pazienza has not boxed

since he stopped Dana Rosenblatt in four rounds in 1995. He has been acting in films and making more money than he ever made out of boxing, but he said he had never been out of the gym and is ready for Graham.

Herbie Hide will make the first defence of his WBO heavyweight title at the Norwich Sports Village on January 17. Hide reclaimed the title he lost to Riddick Bowe by defeating Tony Tucker, the American, at the same venue last July. An opponent has yet to be confirmed.

Sea anglers catch on to the cod boom

hundreds of thousands of sea anglers the best winter Lfishing of their lives. Along shores where catches are normally counted in zeros and ones, dozens are now being taken. At night, when most cod fishing is done, so many anglers are out by lamplight that beaches are as as brightly lit as promenades.

According to scientists at the Ministry for Agriculture. Fisheries and Food research centre at Lowestoft, it is the best year for cod since 1985. However, the ministry only samples deep-sea stocks. Its figures, it concedes, take no account of the fish available to anglers along the shore.

According to Alan Yares, of Folkestone, an English international and respected writer on sea angling: "This winter is the best for shore fishing since 1962. The cod are everywhere. Normally they only come in at night. but there are so many out there that. this year, they are coming close in broad daylight, hunting for food." Yates said that even in places where anglers hardly ever see a cod. fish are

Brian Clarke reports on the hunters on the shoreline that are providing bulging nets for happy fishermen

phenomenal — and it's proving a real

boom for tackle shops, bait diggers, the trade, everyone involved." The reason for the huge upsurge in

fish numbers, so soon after anglers were expressing concern that com-mercial fishing had reduced the stock to perilous levels, lies in the extraordinary survival rates from the spawnings of 1996.

The cod is a cold-water fish and normally spawns in spring in the high Atlantic and the North Sea. The fish come to the surface and pair off. The female, laden with an incredible 500 eggs per gramme of body weight. swims around in circles and the male swims upside down beneath her. fertilising the eggs as they are re-leased. Clouds of eggs drift close to the surface on the ocean currents, gradu-

being caught two at a time. "It's

ally hatching into tiny fry. At every turn, the little fish are thinned - by adverse water temperatures, by food shortages, by the vast shoals of predators that have congregated in the spawning areas. Only a handful from the millions that each parent produces ever matures. Then man with his nets and his rods steps

Last year, though, the grim reapers of the sea stayed their hands. According to one ministry scientist, "nobody knows all the factors involved in spawning success and survival - or how in some years they all come together. It is one of the mysteries of

fisheries research". According to Mel Russ, editor of the monthly Sea Angler magazine, big catches are being reported right along the South Coast from Dorset to Kent and then as far north as Northumberland. Exceptional bags are being taken from South Wales to the Clyde. One of the features of the catches is

the extraordinary variation in fish sizes. One fish will be llb, the next 3lb or 4lb," Yates said. "These are all fish from the same spawning. Where there is plenty of food, the fish grow at a

The boom is set to continue for a couple of months at least. It is not until January that the first fish will begin to migrate back to the deeps, to start the cycle again. In the same month, many fish that remain will lift from the bottom and start to feed in mid-water, making it more difficult for all but the expert to catch them.

"So we are looking at a bumper Christmas," Russ said. "Even if catch numbers fall, bag weights won't because the numbers will be steadily thinned out, leaving more food all round. If enough can get through the next year — if they are not scooped up by the commercial hoats, which is what all of us fear - we could be in for a bit of a run." Alan Yates agreed. The big ques-

tion is how many of them can avoid

the nets. I think there are so many fish out there that plenty will."

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7:30 ynless stulid '' dunotes all-éclari POOTBALL. Nationwide League First division

Ipswich v Middlesbrough (7 45) Sheffield Utd v Stoke (7 45) West Bromwich v Manchester City (7 45) Secured division Backpool v Plymouth
Bouriemouth v York (7.45)
Bristol Cdy v Burrley (7.45)
Bristol Cdy v Burrley (7.45)
Fruham v Brendord (7.45)
Gransby v Wycombe (7.45)
Lorinamouth v Glangham (7.45)
Northampton v Chesterfield (7.45)
Northampton v Chesterfield (7.45)
Southend v Preston (7.45)
Wigen v Bristol Rovers (7.45)
Wigen v Bristol Rovers (7.45)

Train Counting Third Genian
Colchester v Carciff (7 45)
Darlangton v Shrewsbury
Doncaster v Chester
Exister v Lincoln (7 45)
Harlepool v Hull
Leyon Orset v Barnet (7 45)
Macclesfield v Scutthorpe (7 45)
Macclesfield v Scutthorpe (7 45)
Peterburouch v Cambridge Und (7 45)
Swanses v Rotherstam
Torqusy v Marsteld (7 45)

Dr Martens League Premier division DR MARTTENS LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Bedworth v Worcester Clevedon v Forest Green, Crawley v St Loonards Stampards.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Southern devision: Fiest Tv Bactiey
THE RYMAN POOTBALL LEAGUE FULL
MEMBERS CUP: Second nound: Button
Rovers v Harrow, Carababon v Addesshot T
Chestram v Gravesend and Montifieet
Harroon v Madornhead; Leatherhead v
Chestrae, States v Sation Utd; Updroigs v
Heybridge Sadis; Yeading v Wembley
Associatin Members Trophy; Second
round, Leave; v Horshert, Tooling and
Minchan v Cosnithan-Cesures Second
division: Eighern v Marlow Met Potice v
Brachmet Vivindoor and Elon v Humperford.
Third division: Herdind v Paget-weit Headir,
Kingstury v Epsom and Ewiel
THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUIP: Second

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP. Second tound: Backburn y Manchester Ports-

mouth v Erith and Behrederit; Bury v Paterborough, Hull v Burnle;

NVON NESSIFANCE COMENTATION, Pinst division: Assenal v Monwoth (2 0)

THE PONTRY'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Tremmere v Mart Lift (7 0)

GLIARDIAN INSURANCE CUP: Second round: Wealdstone v Hitchan Second round: Wealdstone v Hitchan Second round: Wealdstone v Hitchan NATIONWIDE GOLD CUP: Final Genevon v Coleranne (a) Windsor Park, Bettest,

BOOGLE & DUNTRHORNIE IS F A CUP: Reptor v Eton

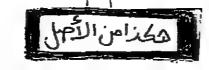
Repton v Eton WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First divisions Herne Bay v Folkesbrine Invota. Remisgate v Lindsward; Turchindge Wells v Draftward (Part League) (Pa

division: Bridgewater v Elmone, Peulign R v Chard
Meditiva SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS: O'Brien Butchers Chatteringe Trophy: Third round: Hispenden v Welviyn Garden: St Margaretsbury v London (Joiney)
NORTH WEST COUNTIES FLOODLIT TROPHY: Blackpool Rovers v Kidsgrave, Holies Cid Boys v Prescot Cables, Nanosch Jown v Burscough.
Seviend GASTERN COUNTIES: Premier division: Clactor v Sudbury Watton v Stantharket; Wrootham v Newmarket
UHLSPORT LINITED COUNTIES:

SIGNATURE V NEWTRING UP LEAGUE PREMIET CHARGON V NEWTRANG V NEWTRA UNINET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First divisions. Largney Sports v Hassocies. Littlehampton v Portfield Pagtam v Mills Oak, Peacatraven and Tresponsible v Healtham Pingmar v Seldean; Salisay v Wirds. FAUMBRO TROPHY: Third-round qualitying replays: Granthem v Marine (7.45); Margate v Corby (7.45); Abingdoon Town v Salingbourne (7.45).

RUGBY LIMON Tour matches

England A v New Zealand XV lat Welford Road, Lecester, 7.45) Caladona v ACT (at Bridgehaugh, Stirling, 7.0) REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: South West Under-21 v New Zealand Urzes-21 (st Krysholm, Gloucestes, 7.15)



Coleman sheds his doubts to join Fulham revolution

FOOTBALL

CHRIS COLEMAN yesterday Coleman, who missed most of last season after suffering a swapped life in the FA Carling Premiership for the ruptured Achilles tendon, has played only one first-team thrills of a London derby game for Blackburn since against Brentford when he joined Fulham for £2.1 million recovering, a Coca-Cola Cup defeat against Preston in Septo become, by some distance. tember, and with Colin Hen-dry, Stephane Henchoz and the most expensive player in the Nationwide League second Tore Pedersen ahead of him in With his wages estimated to be in the order of £6.000 a the pecking order. Coleman decided a move was the best

week, he will also be its best-"I was worried about not paid player. Anything less being able to get into the Blackburn side and what that would have meant a drop in salary and Coleman complet-ed his move from Blackburn would do for my international Rovers yesterday only after Kevin Keegan, the Fulham

creased their offer to the 27-year-old after an initial deal last week fell through. The Wales defender, who has agreed a three-year contract, is likely to make his debut against Brentford tonight, when he could also be joined by Paul Trollope, Alan Neilson and Steve McAnespie. All three were signed from Premiership clubs last week — Derby County, Southampton and Bolton Wanderers respectively — but were not regis-tered in time to play in the 3-! defeat away to Preston North

chief operations officer. In-



Fifa rules out French drug-testing centre

DRUGS tests for the World Cup next summer will not be carried out at the only laboratory accredited by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in France. Fifa has decided not to use

the centre at Chatenay-Malabry, in the suburbs of Paris, which this season has reported on five findings of anabolic steroids in French football in the past year.

In a written statement, Keith Cooper, a Fifa spokes-man, said that the world football governing body would not reveal in which laboratory the tests would be held, but added: "The laboratory of Chatenay-Malabry would not be among those chosen for these

The decision has surprised the laboratory and the French Sports Ministry, because the analyses will now have to take place at an IOCaccredited centre outside the credibility.

season David Garcion, the Lille striker,

was suspended for taking nandrolone, a hormone drug. This season, in an unprecedented spate of positive tests anywhere in world football, the Paris laboratory reported four other findings for the same drug in the urine samples of Cyrille Pouget, the Le Havre striker; Antoine Sibierski, the Auxerre midfield player; David Arribage, the Tou-louse defender and Vincent Guerin, the international midfield player of Paris Saint-Germain, the French league champions.

However, lawyers for the four players have filed civil suits for damages, which will force a full legal inquiry. It is probably because of this action that file has decided to go elsewhere for its drug-testing for the World

At the 1996 Olympics the new, high-resolution mass spectrometer, which has acute sensivity, was used sucessfully for the first time for urine analysis at the Games.

chances." Coleman said. " was also concerned about moving down to the second division and what that might result in. But I spoke to Bobby Gould [the Wales manager] and he assured me that it would not harm my prospects. so that put my mind at rest. "I also spoke to Kevin and

he convinced me that Fulham wouldn't be in that division for long, so I was happy to sign. It is an exciting time at Fulham and with Kevin and Ray Wilkins [the manager] they have some good people. I wanted to be part of it."

Wilkins has now spent more than £4 million of Mohamed Al Fayed's money and the signing will add more spice to a game tonight that was already of considerable interest. Brentford are managed by Micky Adams, whose successful reign at Craven Cottage was brought to an abrupt end when Keegan and Wilkins swept to power in September.

Adams, who had led the team to promotion from the popular with Fulham fans and his denarture third division, was highly his departure was greeted with widespread sympathy and some anger. It promises

to be a lively evening.

After leaving Fulham, Adams had a turbulent 13 days in charge of Swansea City before resigning over a lack of funding for new signings. Now, though, he is so short of players through injury that he has named himself in the squad for the match tonight.

Adams said: "We're going through an injury crisis at the moment and there just aren't enough experienced professionals in the squad. The only experienced player left is me. I will name myself in the squad but I don't want to give Fulham too much information because they'll be worried. I'd rather not have to play, but I may not have any choice."

Adams said that he bears no grudges against Fulham and is looking forward to a chance to earn some muchneeded points for a Brentford side 23rd in the table, two points above Carlisle United and without a win in eight league games.

It's all done and dusted as far as I'm concerned and I've my preunous faulty i look after now," Adams said. "It's a lovely little club and I'm really settling in now. The last and I wish everybody at Fulham all the best for the future. Everybody keeps saying I might get a good reception from the fans but we'll just have to wait and see."



and the second s

United ambitions: Paul and Alex Millership have helped to revive Ilkeston Town, who have reached the second round for the first time

Family planning fuels Ilkeston's rebirth

t could be the decisive scene of a father is convalescing in hospital after major surgery, happy simply to be alive. Into the ward strolls his son, on a mission. "Dad," he says, "the manager wants £7,000 for a new

player. I think he should have it." Meet the Millerships: Paul, the dad, left school at 15 to sweep the floor of a local furniture factory, set up a rival firm, now owns both and employs 700 people in and around Ilkeston. Alex, the son, is 17 and fretting over his A levels, with a passing interest in his father's businesses and rather more in the local football club.

Eight years ago, Paul saved likeston Town from probable extinction. They were about to lose their ground to a supermarket chain, had fallen out of football's pyramid system and lacked money for development. He became chairman, but has increasingly taken soundings from Alex. So he should, for his son has been vice-chairman since stepping into the breach late last year.

"I had suffered two heart attacks and went into hospital for a triple by-pass," Millership Sr said. "A week after the operation Alex came to tell Richard Hobson meets the father-and-son

team with a passion for an emerging club

me that Keith Alexander [the manager] needed a new player. I think that is really when I realised how keen he was. I was quite proud of him." Clearly, likeston were in safe hands -

Paul Eshelby, the player concerned, was the leading scorer last season. "At that time I was not bothered about the football club or the businesses," Millership continued. "I just wanted to get better. Alex became more involved with the other directors. It was natural that he became vice-chairman. He has a big imput nowadays. It is up to him, but I hope when he is 21 he will take over as chairman and run the club. He has a good football brain."

Responsibility brings with it a dilemma. On Saturday, Ilkeston have the highest-profile game in their history, against Scunthorpe United. the second round of the FA Cup for the first time and, while Alex will go to the game on a supporters' bus with friends, he is loath to sit in

the directors' box. He would rather cheer from the cheap

Until this season Paul also insisted on paying admission. He felt it gave him licence to criticise as a supporter. "I told him it was silly when he owned the club," Alex said. "He can say what he likes anyway." Paul did as he was told. On Friday, he is returning home early from a trade fair in Kentucky to take his place at Glanford Park.

That Ilkeston are there at all is remarkable. For a team in the Midlands division of the Dr Martens League to progress this far is achievement enough. Considering the recent difficulties to befall the Derbyshire club, it is extraordinary. Six years ago, they were demoted from the West Midlands (Regional) League premier division because the Manor Ground, which they were due to leave a year later, did not have floodlights. They immediately won promotion, by which time the new ground had been approved, but drainage problems made home games virtually impossible through the first winter. When they won a place in the Beazer Homes

League premier division in 1995, they

were relegated immediately. Paul Millership insists that the club is now among the most forwardlooking in non-league football. The youth scheme stretches to 12 full-time trainees and, on Saturday, at least two teenagers can be expected to line up alongside experienced former Football League players such as Nicky Law, a much travelled defender, and Matt Carmichael, scorer of both goals in the first-round win against Boston

To me it is the future that matters, not the past," the chairman said. "1 honestly think we have a chance of reaching the Vauxhall Conference within four or five years. After that, it

Symons is withdrawn from leading role



Symons: abuse

ICE HOCKEY

THE problems of Manchester City appear to increase with every match and, yesterday, Kit Symons was relieved of his job as team captain. He will be replaced by Kevin oriock for the game against West Bromwich Albion in the Nationwide League first division this evening. Symons, 26, will play at The

Hawthorns, but will no longer have to carry the burden of leading a side that has won only four league matches this season and lies in 21st place in the table. He has faced grow-

ROWING

By Russell Kempson

ing criticism from disgruntled supporters but although Frank Clark, the City manag-er, has relieved him of his maich-day duiles, he w main as club captain. "I've been thinking about it

for a while," Clark said. "The volume of stick that Kit has been receiving has been very unfair. I think it's the right time to take a bit of the pressure off him. I hope it will benefit him and the team." Horlock, 25, who captained

Swindon Town before moving to Maine Road, said: "I'm delighted, it's a great honour, but I'm disappointed for Kit. None of us have really played to our potential this season but he seems to have borne the brunt of the criticism. Some of it has been disgraceful."

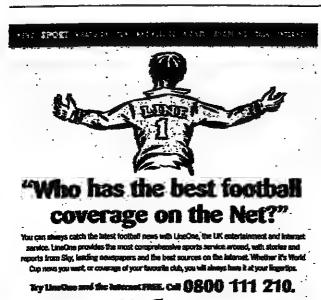
Middlesbrough, who beat West Bromwich 1-0 at home on Saturday, will take over the leadership of the division for the first time this season if they beat Ipswich Town at strain.

Portman Road, Neil Maddison and Gianluca Festa will miss the game because of injuries, though Maddison, who was carried off on a stretcher against West Brom- 1 wich, has not sustained a broken leg, as at first

feared. Sheffield United, who are unbeaten in their past six matches, play Stoke City at Bramali Lane, with Vassilis Borbokis, the former AEK Athens defender, likely to have recovered from an ankle

FOR THE RECORD







19. J Parnevil. (Swe) 5.76; 20, Tom Welson 5.47. Nomen: Top 10: 1, A Sorenstam (Swe) 178.50, 2, K Webb (Aus) 459.39, 3, L Devies 639, 337.68, 4, K Robbins 330.84, 5, L Veumann (Swe) 224.00, 6, C Johnson 111.83, 7, M McCann 177.48, 8, L Hackney GB) 168.00; 9, D Pepper 168.03, 10, J Invisier 167.99 SIMON BOLLIVAR CUP, Caracas, Vencusias Final totals: 558: Japon K Forekura 275, M Kanslo 283); 558: Kanacuela (M Maya 279, E Amergual 280); Kanacuela (M Maya 279, E Amergual 280); Si8: England (J Fose 278, G Wolszenholme 285), 965: Ireland (J Fose 278, C Wolszenholme 285), 965: Ireland (J Fose 378, United States, Si6: Scotland (B Caena 320, H Madonael
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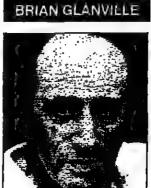
Brazil's demands give clubs a sense of loss

European clubs mands made by international teams have increased, are increasing and must surely be

As things stand, several Italian clubs are likely to lose their various Brazilian players for no fewer than three champ-ionship games, yet Brazil will be playing merely a friendly in South Africa on Sunday, followed, between December 12 and 21, by the so-called Confederation Cup in Saudi Arabia a manifest redundancy but deemed by Fifa, football's world governing body, to be an official tournament.

Half a dozen Serie A players have been called on by Brazil, including Ronaldo, of Internazionale, and Cruz and Leonardo, of AC Milan. Ronaldo might yet escape, since he is already expected to play in the game between Europe and the Rest of the World, which celebrates the coming World Cup draw, in Marseilles. Inter hope this might free him not only for their league game away to Sampdoria, but also for the return leg of the Uefa Cup against Strasbourg at the San Siro on December 9, when they will be chasing a two-goal deficit.

Without going as far as the owner of Milan. Silvio Berlusconi, who has opined that international football is as nothing to the club game, Fifa must surely study how the rights of clubs can be upheld. Far too often, key players are injured playing for their countries - or even in training, as was the recent case of Attilio Lombardo, of Crystal Palace. He hurt himself training with the Azurri before the recent



Overseas View

play-off in Naples against Russia. Inter's 3-1 win away to Vicenza last Sunday has strengthened their position at the top of Serie A, but things could have been very different had Di Carlo, of Vicenza, not hit a post from an early

Note that Diego Simeone, the Argentina international, followed his goal the previous weekend against Milan with being that against Milan, he scored as an emergency strik-er, reverting to the role in which he figured long agowhen he came to Italy, with

At Vicenza, he was back in midfield and his second goal was a spectactular right-foot-er, a bullet of a shot. He seems sure to keep his place in the Argentina midfield come the World Cup finals.

As for Juventus, held to a draw on Sunday by Milan, it seems that, at long last, Luciano Moggi's policies of "creative destruction", of dis-

mantling a successful team at the end of each season, have caught up with him. Moggi. a wheeler-dealer par excellence. known euphemistically in Italy as "the nice Pinocchio of Italian football", got away with unloading Fabrico Ravanelli and Gianluca Vialli Last summer, he took a greater gamble by selling Alen Boksic back to Lazio and Christian Vieri to Atlético Madrid. Pippo Inzaghi, though he came on as substitute and got the equaliser against Milan. has not looked the player that he was last season, when he topped the championship scorers in Italy with 24 goals for

Atalanta. Against Manchester Linited, in their Champions' League game in Turin on December 10. when nothing but victory can keep Juve in the European Cup, Alex del Piero will be suspended. However, Montes ro, the rugged Uruguayan, should be there to steady a defence that, without him, not least in Parma and in Rotterdam against Feyenoord, has looked horribly vulnerable.

As for Ravanelli, he is up in arms again - incensed at being refused a penalty last weekend when his Marseilles team lost 1-0 to Names and insisting that he has been persecuted since he gained a recent penalty against Paris Saint-Germain, though he had clearly dived to get

"If referees want to drive me out of France," he cried, "they're going at it the right way. It can't go on like this.

Nor, presumably, can it in
Brazil, where, in the match won 4-1 by Internacional, of Porto Alegre, against Santos, four players were sent of and

ordan goes barch to pofmoney-list Britoni placed third

ismus acturns

Vest Indie, face five

RUGBY UNION: BATTERED ENGLAND SIDES STEEL THEMSELVES FOR FURTHER EXAMINATIONS

Clarke given opportunity to end exile

RUGBY CORRESPUNDENT

THIS will be a traumatic week for England. Like it or not they have crept under the skin of New Zealand, who will seek to conclude their year in style at Percester against England A his evening and against the careworn England seniors at Wickenham on Saturday.

One of their betes noire, Martin Johnson, is likely to return after suspension on Saturday and it is in Johnson's backyard, at Welford Road, that the All Blacks' midweek XV make their farewell tonight. They will do so against a XV regarded as England's official A team that includes Ben Clarke at No 8.

When Clarke toured New Zealand with the British Isles in 1993 he was widely regarded as one of the best back-row forwards to visit them. His star has waned since then, his move from Bath to Richmond taking him into the second division and out of the mainstream, but he will need no reminding that this is an opportunity to press for a return to international rugby in the new year.

At 29 he has plenty of mileage left on the clock and 33 England appearances be-hind him, the last of them as a replacement against Australia in Sydney in July. He has alongside him the contrasting skills of Rory Jenkins and Patrick Sanderson, of whom Sanderson enjoyed a better night against the All Blacks at Bristol last week than did Jenkins at Huddersfield a week earlier.

Two of the England A players, Man Allen, the Northampton centre, and Mark Regan, the Bath hooker, have the dubious privilege of playing three successive matches against the New Zealanders, for Emerging England, for the English Rugby Partnership (ERP) XV and for England A. Whether, at the end of it, they will be certain of their place in the pecking order must be in some doubt.

The form of Richie Butland, of Bath, will be monitored closely since he is a member of an endangered species. - the England-qualified fly half —

role



Clarke, in typically aggressive form, charges past Keith Wood during England's victory over Ireland at Lansdowne Road in January 1995

and is likely to be required as a replacement when the team for Twickenham is named tomorrow. However, the autumn series has also thrown up a genuine newcomer in Spencer Brown, so impressive in defence at Bristol last week. Brown, who plays for Richmond, made the most of limited attacking opportunities and cut down Tana Umaga with a superb cover

New Zealand probably took the ERP-XV too lightly and they gave an excellent account of themselves before losing narrowly," Richard Hill, the England A coach. said. "I am sure the All Blacks will be mentally prepared for this one but, whatever happens, it has been an invaluable England experience to play against the world's best team over these past few weeks." There are two Leicester

players on display. Graham Rowntree and the recalled Stuart Potter, and their supporters will also take an interest in the England Under-21 side that plays the touring New Zealand youth XV at Newbury on Friday. Michael Horak, the South African full back who joined Leicester this season, makes his debut alongside two colleagues, Leon Lloyd and Lewis Moody.

Horak, from Johannesburg, has an English mother and has played consistently for Leicester throughout their Alfied Dunbar Premiership and European campaigns. The Under-21s include one senior international, Andrew Long, who won his first cap against

Gareth Thomas, played on the wing for Wales against New Zealand at Wembley last Saturday, has completed his transfer from Bridgend to Cardiff for a sum around £100,000. Bridgend, in turn, have brought in Darren George, who has played lock for North Harbour in New

ENGLAND A: T Simpson (Newcasile), S Brown (Fortmond), S Potter (Leuceste), M Allen (Northampton), A Adebayo (Bath), R Buttand (Bath), S Benton (Gloucester); G Rowntree (Leucester), M Regan (Bath), P Vickery (Gloucester), R Heller (Gloucester), D Sms (Gloucester), R Jenkins (Harte-must)

McCarthy (Gloucester), V Ubogu (Ba Shaw (Wasps), R Winters (Bedford) NEW ZEALANDERS: I Miller I Umaga. !
McLeod. A lerema. 'G Osborne'; C Spencer
M Robinson'; M Allen, A Oliver, G Stater, G
Rischstmann', M Cooksley. I Blackoder, N
Carler. S Surndge Replacements: .
Stanley, J Preston, N Hewitt, C Barrell, A
Blowers, A Hopa Referee: A Lewis (ireland).

Rendere: A Level (reand),

ENGLAND UNDER-21: M Horak
(Lexester): D Thompson (Saracens), S
Wood (Waterton), J Prichard (Baith), L Lloyd
(Lexester), J Williamon (Newcastle), M
Wood (Wasps): M Worsley (Bristol), A
Long (Bath, V Haritand (unstisched), J
Beardshaw (Wasps), J Brownring (Bristol),
J Cockie (Moseley), L Moody (Lexester) J
Worsley (Wasps) Replacaments: S Daon
Hanopatel, J Lewrence (Psychol) P Richards

Universities put their faith in foreign legion David Hands casts a critical eye

over the 116th University match

THE ringing Australian tones of Turn Murphy and Richie Maher were an indication yesterday of the continuing overseas thread that runs so strongly through the history of the University rugby match. Of the 30 players who will start the 116th fixture between Oxford and Cambridge at Twickenham next Tuesday, lo come from Australasia, South Africa or North America. Oxford will also include two

There are times when the two universities seem more valued — at least in a sporting context - by those abroad rather than those at home. This has been the term in which both have been offended by the Rugby Football Union's abrupt removal of the immediate past captains to run the touchlines, nor have the hopes of the student administrators been rewarded where the match referee - yet to be

confirmed — is concerned. it will, though, be Oxford's hope that they can prise the Bowring Bowl from Cambridge, who have held it for the past three years, partly as a tribute to Mike Campbell-Lamerton who stands down at the end of this month as president of the rugby club. The former Scotland and British Isles captain will be succeeded by Sir Robin Butler, the new Master of University

Oxford will bring six Blues to the fray (a seventh, John Bothwell, has been injured most of this term) and Cambridge nine. an unusually high proportion that also strengthens the Light Blues' position as favourites. Set against that is the international experience that Niall Hogan, the Ireland scrum half, and Ray Lehner, who has propped for the United States, bring to Oxford. The general perception will be that if Oxford are to reverse recent trends it must be through their pack. while the Cambridge backs have contributed significant ly towards a successful

record. As in the previous two years. Cambridge are mar-shalled by Rob Ashforth from fly half who could even win instant promotion to the senior representative ranks. so scarce are Englishmen in

his position. "I don't mind the tag of underdogs," Maher said. "I've heard quite a range of descriptions from slight to downright when describing us as underdogs. But we have two evenly-matched sides and I think it will be a

ciose game."
Richard Bramley, the
Cambridge lock, will be
making his fifth appearance in the Varsity match while. in contrast, Johnny Cocks will be making his first. This is not for want of trying: Cocks is in his third year of management studies and has played 50 times for the Blues XV, only to miss selection for Twickenham. Instead he has gathered up a Blue for hoxing, a half Blue for rugby league and stands to add a basketball Blue to



Erasmus returns as Scotland's injury problems mount

By MARK SOUSTER AND KEVIN FERRIE

THE contrast in fortunes between Scotland and South Africa was graphically illustrated by events yesterday in Edinburgh, where the world champions had arrived on something of a high.

While Scotland struggled to piece together a squad of 26 for the international match at Murraysield on Saturday, and have no idea when they will be able to select a side, the Springboks were able to strengthen their hand by recalling Johan Erasmus after injury. His return, at the

expense of Andrew Aitken, is the one change from the team that added to England's autumnal gloom at Twickenham on Saturday.

These are depressing times for Scotland, who find themselves ravaged by injuries. Their squad includes the 21 who saw service against Australia minus Adam Roxburgh, who is concussed. The six additions are Rob Wainwright, Barry Stewart, Peter Walton, Stuart Reid, Derek Stark and Rowen Shepherd.

However, the party includes several players who are far from fit, among them Gregor Townsend, Alan Tait, James Craig and David Hilton. Of that quartet, Tait's hamstring problem is giving most cause for concern. Wainwright's match fitness is also uncertain. The former captain played his first game for a month for Dundee HSFP at the

With Doddie Weir and Andy Reed unable to be considered and with Tom Smith wondering If he will play again this season because of a damaged pelvis, one can understand the frustrations of Richie Dixon, the coach, after the debacle against

"I have to say I have never felt so

amantha Salvia is one of that rare breed of sportsmen and

disappointed," Dixon said. "Anyone who has been a national coach will agree that you are always under pressure. You just have to ensure that your players are properly

Jim Telfer, the Scottish Rugby Union director of rugby, acknowledged that under Nick Mallett, their new coach. South Africa had made

rapid progress. They have reacted very well to what happened in the summer." Telfer said. "They have changed their game plan and are far more expansive. Mallett has given them their head. Beating them will be the

greatest achievement we have ever had." Speaking at the team hotel last night, Mallett alluded to the feeling of despair he had encountered in Scotland, "People in the street are saying to us: 'Go easy on Scotland.' It is a terrible thing to be spoken about

Note trize.

SOUTH AFRICA P C Montgomery (Western Province), J T Smalt (Western Province), A H Snymen (Northern Transvaal), D J Multr (Western Province), H W G Rossouw (Western Province), H W Hombell (Natal) W Swanepoel (Free State) J P du Ranct (Free State), J Datton (Gauteng), A C Garvey (Natal), K Otto (Northern Transvas), M G Antiews (Natal), J Erasmus (Free State) A G Venter (Free State), B H Teichmartin (Natal), Peplacements, J Swart (Western Province), J H de Beer (Free State), D van Zyl (Mournalange), A D Althein (Western Province), W Meyer (Free State), A E Drotske (Free State)

TWICKENHAM TEAMS

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: P
Sumidge (St. kernigem College,
Auckland and Hughes Hall); "N
Walne (Caerleon CS and St. Cathenne's), M Robinson (Opunake, New
Zesland and Hughes Hall), M
Denney (Bediord Modern and St.
Edmund's), "N Hill (St. Ignalius
College, Sydney and St. Edmund's), "R
Ashforth (Bradford GS and
Pretehouse), R Ellott (Durham and
St. Edmund's), "G Reynolds
(Chesthunt and Hughes Hall), "T
Murphy (St. Joseph's, Brizbene and
St. Edmund's, capiant), M Foulds
(Christ's College, Contertoury and
Sidney Sussed), "R Bramley (QEGS
Wakelield and St. Edmund's), "A
Craig (Taurangs, New Zealand and
Hughes Hall), "M Hyde (St. Ignalius
College, Sydney and St. Edmund's),
H Whitford (The Leys and
Homerton), J Cooks (Newington
College, Sydney and St. Edmund's)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: "R Maher (S) Ignatius College, Sydney and University, capisin) N Booth (Lyrham St Anne's HS and Worcester), N Larsen (Hilling College, Durban and Lincoln). B Rudge (S) Edward's, Liverpool and keble), R Pollock (Diocesan College, Capetown and Keble); "T Jensen (S) Edmund's College, Carberna and S) Anne's), "N Hogan (Terenure College, Dublin and Merton), R Lehner (Jesuit HS, Sacramento and S) Anne's), M Collard (King's, Paramata and S) Anne's), A Robbert (Soling) and University). "T Eisenhauer (S) Ignatius College, Sydney and S) Anne's), A Roberts (Amplelorth and New), "M Orsier (Amplelorth and New), "M Orsier (Lyrich). D Kelaher (S) Joseph's, Sudney and St Cross), "N Spicer (Clongowes Wood College, Dublin and S) Anne's).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Jordan goes back to top of money-list

■ EARNINGS: For the fifth time in six years, Michael Jordan is the richest athlete in sport, taking home a record \$78.3 million (about £47.5 million) in 1997. Jordan, of the Chicago Bulls basketball team, unseated Mike Tyson, who last year ended a four-year run by Jordan in the Forbes magazine list of wealthiest sports competitors. The former heavyweight champion fell to fifth.

Prince Naseem Hamed, the boxer, was the highest-ranked Briton on the list, his earnings of £7.5 million as the World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion, surpassing those of Lennox Lewis, who made E6.1 million.

Sciandri injured

ECYCLING: Max Sciandri, the Italian-born Briton. finished a training session in hospital on Sunday after colliding with an oncoming car. Sciandri was training with two other riders at Montecatini Terme, Italy, when he swerved to avoid people who had wandered into their path and ended up against the windscreen of a car. He suffered a head injury, cuts to the face and a broken tooth.

Britons heads for Doha

■ TENNIS: Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman will take part in the Qatar Open from January 5-11. Henman, ranked No 17 in the world and No 2 in Great Britain, was the runner-up in Doha in 1007, while Rusedski, the world No 6 and British No I, will be making his first appearance. The top seed will be Yeveni Kafelnikov, of Russia, the former French Open champion, who is the world No 5.

Britons placed third

GOLF: The England Walker Cup pairing of Justin Rose and Gary Wolstenholme finished third in the Simon Bolivar Cap international team tournament at Caracas, Ven-cuela. Rose (278) and Welstenholme (285) combined for a four-round aggregate of 563 — five behind Kentaro Yonekura and Mitsunori Kaneko, of Japan, the winners.

* West Indies face five

■ CRICKET: West Indies will play five Test matches in their lungum) mar of South Africa, Ali Bacher, the United Cricket Board managing director, announced yesterday. Bacher said that while the innerary is still being finalised, it had been agreed that the first Test will take place at the Wanderers

Cathy Harris meets an American who preferred Oxford to the Olympic Games

Dreaming Spires offer Salvia perfect stage

women prepared to give up the chance of representing their country at the Olympic Games to pursue an academic career. Old Dominion University's top student when she graduated with a BSc in civil engineering, she was also the first student from the university in Norfolk, Virginia, to win a Rhodes Scholarship. While studying at Oxford, she is spending this winter playing for the women's national league club, Olton Terraquest. Persuaded by Kristen Holmes, the United States international, to turn out for the Birmingham-based club this season, the pair are the first Americans to play in the English premier division. Hockey has not always been her life, but Salvia admits that she is enjoying the competition again after setting her sights on winning a Rhodes Scholarship and dropping out of the United States' training squad before the Games in Atlanta. It was a big deal and very presti-

Oxford." Describing herself as "quiet -- even by American standards", Salvia, a midfield player, is enjoying life at Olton. Coached by the charismatic Gavin Featherstone, the club is widely acknowledged to be an ambitious and professionally-run outlit, even though they are newcomers to the premier division. Their squad includes Barbara Hambly, the former England and Great Britain captain, Lucilla Wright, the England schoolgirl international, and Debbie

Edwards, the former Springbok. -Compared with the college game, the range of ages at Olton is great," Salvia, 23, 'said. "There's a whole gamut of life experiences and

A native of Norristown, near



college career. Asked if she was a

successive nominations as an Academic All American and she was

captain of the Old Dominion field

hockey team, which is at present

ranked No l in the United States

Nothing, though, could prepare

college game.

to experience when she arrived in England for the first time to start her BA in Philosophy, Politics and Ecosporting achievements in a glittering nomics at Jesus College. "You're almost fulled into a false sense of swot, she laughed: "Is that some sort security because everyone speaks of English saying? Let's just say I'm English," Salvia said. "Yet I can't get an efficient worker." Nonetheless, there were, among others, three

over how picky people are about lining up straight at a bus stop!" In a recent letter to the President of Old Dominion, Salvia enthused about the ancient buildings, tradition and the rigours of her course, adding: "In England, I don't stand in a line, I wait in a queue. Occasionally, I

her for the culture shock that she was indulge in some biscuits or chips. knowing in my heart they're really cookies and fries."

Her learning curve continued in the summer, when she was invited to take part in a project looking at restoring a contaminated urban river in Cape Town, South Africa.

een to continue working with water resources when she has finished studying. Salvia spent hours standing waist deep in the Lotus River measuring the flow and collecting samples from the polluted waterway.

Returning after a memorable journey to Africa, she has become adept at balancing her demanding scholastic schedule with twice-weekly trips to Ofton for training. There are, however, compensations, like late night visits to George and Davis, an

American ice cream shop in Oxford. "I still have trouble getting used to the idea of having a pint after a game," she laughed: "Sport and alcohol don't go together in the US and I must admit I find the whole idea completely incongruous." She does admit she may be tempted if there is an occasion to celebrate.

Golfer making similar impact to Lyle and Faldo



Westwood comes out of a bunker on the final day at Melbourne, where he beat Greg Norman in a play-off. Photograph: Clive Mason/Allsport

Westwood's reputation soars

John Hopkins considers the remarkable rise of an Englishman who could beat Montgomerie in the race for a major title

morning before lunch. The place: an hotel adjoining a golf club on the north Norfolk coast. The cast: golfers who had battled their way round against strong winds and rain and were now rewarding themselves with drinks that were bringing feeling back to chilled bodily extremities. The subject: events in Australia a few hours earlier, when Lee Westwood had defeated Greg Norman in a play-off for the Australian Open.

One golfer twirled his glass and said, a touch enviously: "I wouldn't mind earning half as much as Lee Westwood has

enviously: "I wouldn't mind having half what he has won in the past month. He must have won over a half-million pounds since the beginning of November." He added: "I think Westwood will win a major championship before Colin Montgomerie."

For a moment there was silence as the assembled company considered the prospect

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of Lee Westwood, Open chanpion. or the sight of Lee Westwood proudly wearing a green jacket.

Yet it is a measure of how far and how fast Westwood has come these past 11 months that such a statement could be made without appearing outrageous about a man who played in all four major championships for the first time in 1997. Westwood's worst finish in any of them was 29th and his world ranking has risen to Looking back on 1997, one

suggests it has the look of a seminal year. It was the year of the tiger if not of Tiger. Three of the four major championships were won by men of the leading 20 in the Order of Merit were younger than 30. The old order changeth. salute the new guard. The year began with all the

kerfuffle about 21-year-old Tiger Woods and whether he could do the grand slam and, in Britain at least, shows every sign of ending with all the kerfuffle about Westwood. who will not be 25 until next



'Winner of three events on three continents within the space of a month'

April. He has won three events on as many continents within a month — the Volvo Masters in Europe, the Visa Taiheyo Masters in Asia, and the Australian Open, not to mention coming second in the

Sarazen World Open in Atlanta, Georgia, where he chased home Mark Calcavecchia with a brilliant closing round of 68. That Westwood might win a

major championship before Montgomerie is not the sort of comment Montgomery would want to hear as, at 34, he struggles to rid himself of the demons that beset him at Opens and to win the major championship to which he has come so close in the United States on four occasions.

Yet Westwood's progress has been so rapid this year that he can now be considered a legitimate contender. Thus Montgomerie will be one of two such men from Europe, whereas lately he seems to have borne that load alone. Westwood is cutting a wider

swathe at a younger age than any British player since Sandy Lyle and Nick Faldo in the early 1980s. By the same age, Lyle had twice won the Europears Under of Metts, been successful in tournaments around the globe and won the individual title in the World Cup. He was truly a prodigy. Faldo was 24 in April 1981 and by then had played in three Ryder Cups and won three PGA Championships.

Still Faldo was something of a tortoise to Lyle's hare, perhaps because he only started golf when in his teens whereas Lvie could hit a bail 100 yards at the age of three

Westwood falls between the

two. He has won fewer tournaments than either Lyle or Faldo, not yet won the individual title in the World Cup or played in three Ryder Cups. Indeed, on his baptism in the event this year there were moments in his opening match when he looked out of his depth, an impression he corrected with doughty play

Westwood's tournament victories, however, are certainly more impressive than Faldo's at the same age. Calcaveochia considers him to to be the best player under 30 in Europe. Norman has said that-Westwood has the potential to be among the top ten in the

Though he looks so young as to appear not to have lost his milk teeth, he plays with a maturity that belies his years. II ne is not d the John Daly "grip it and rip it" school, then nor is he a "first hit the fairway, then hit the green and then two-putt" sort of steady Eddie character. He is long, thrilling to watch and self-confident. The only

apparent weakness in his game is his work around, not on, the greens, an area where practice yields the quickest results.

BOWLS

Hazell wins approval of England selectors

ALTHOUGH England won the women's British indoor team championship in style at Perth last season, the selectors have made several changes for the home international series that will be staged in Darling-ton in March (David Rhys Jones writes).

Among four newcomers named yesterday in the 26-woman squad, Sandy Hazell, from the Mote Park club, in Maidstone, has won the English, British and world indoor singles titles over the past 18 months and has finally convinced the selectors that she is worth her place in the

Jean Baker, of South Forest, won the national outdoor singles championship in 1989 and has been a member of the England outdoor team since

she has received the approval of the indoor selectors.

A third newcomer, Liz Messer, lives in Hampshire but chooses to play for the Cambridge Chesterton club. Her selection is a reward for winning the national triples title at York last March. Carol Pollington, from Diss, in Norfolk, will also be making her first international appearance. first international appearance.
BNGLAND Rink One: S Rictoren (King
George Field), N Edwards (Bridgweier), J
Thomas (Nothingham), D Hanlain (Egham).
Rink Two: L Messer (Cambridge Chesterion), M Ward (County Arts), L Jaman (Cardotidge Chesterion), J Roytance (North Weisham). Rink Three: D Wilson (Boston), J Bales (South Torest), C Artico (Peterborough), M Steele (Egham). Rink Four: Y Lyons (Paverain), M Dyer (Cavedon), S Hazel (Mote Park), B Adderson (Thomaby), Rink Five: K Hawes (Chewal), C Politington (Das), J Coulson (York), N Shaw (Thomaby), Rink Sic M Jackléin (Peterborough), D Gray (Taunton).
E Bessell (Yoovel), M Price (Desborough).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 46 STATUSY

(b) Possessing, indicating, conferring, or imparting a high status. A colloquial adaptation. "No matter how many irrelevant if statusy pieces the New Yorker publishes." TARBAGAN

(c) A large long-haired marmot. Marmota bobak or Marmota sibirica. found in the steppes of eastern and central Asia. Also the pelt of this animal. The Russian word is larbagan. "The giant marmot was being hunted for its fur, known as tarbagan skins." WARI

(b) A board game, originally West African but now played also in the West Indies and Guiana. A variation of mancana. Probably an Ashanti word. "Wari is a game for two players using 48 pebbles and a board hollowed out into two parallel rows of six caps. Awari is a masculine postime though women occasionally play. Making Awari boards involves spiritual danger, and only old men who have lost a wife are allowed to make them."

TANSU (a) A Japanese chest of drawers. The Japanese name. "The tanso, or chest, consists of two, three, or at the most four drawers above each other, which fit exactly into the wall recesses."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE 1 Rxf6! Kxg4 2 Rf5 Qb2 3 Nd1 and Ne3+ follows

TELEVISION CHOICE

Lenin's secrets unmasked

BBC2, 9.00pm

BBC2, 9.00pm

One of the consequences of the collapse of the Soviet Union has been a less reverential animale towards its founding father. Not only does the Russian Government want to move Lenin's body from its mausoleum in Red Square but files about him, long held in secrecy, are being made public. This material forms the basis of a film which while not altering the main, story of Lenin and the Russian Revolution adds useful glosses on the man and the statesman. In the private sphere we hear about the strange three-way relationship between Lenin, his devoted wife and his half-French mistress. The documents reveal Lenin as crueller than often portrayed, once ordering 100 kulaks to be hanged in public. This is linked to his rapidly declining health and the need to push the Revolution through before he died.

The Turner Prize Live Channel 4. 9.00pm

Britain's premier art award is announced at a ceremony at the Tate Gallery in London. The shortlist is notable for comprising four women, though some have accused the judges of a rush to political correctness after the all-male list in 1996. None of the four artists is a painter, nor is she a sculptor in the traditional sense. This, however, is becoming a Turner norm. Christine Morland specialises in mixed media installations, including specialises in mixed media installations, including one on the Nazi doctor Josef Mengele. Cornelia Parker's best-known work was a collection of objects displayed round the sleeping figure of the actress. Tilda Swinton. The Canadian-born Angela Bulloch also uses installations to disturbing effect, while Gillian Wearing's medium is photography. Among those giving their reaction is *The Times* art critic, Richard Cork.

Back to the Floor: Pillow Talk BBC2, 9.50pm

As chief executive of Frenchay Hospital in Bristol, Ann Lloyd is responsible for 4,000 staff and a budget of £110 million. But for this film she leaves her luxuriously-carpeted office to get a taste of working at the dirty end of the NHS. She spends a week on one of her own wards as an auxiliary



Williamio

Lenin speaks to Parliament (BBC2, 9pm)

nurse and learns what it is like to wipe bottoms, cope with many fewer beds than there are patients to fill them and be thrown in at the deep end because trained nurses are in such short supply. To Lloyd's credit she tackles a potentially embarrassing assignment with good humour and genuine sympathy, not least for the auxiliary's low basic pay (£8,000 a year, against her own £70,000). But on the basis that what drives her mad are not big, crises but small irritations, she reserves her anger for the shortage of pillows. inger for the shortage of pillows.

Crimewatch UK: Still Unsolved

BBC1, 10.00pm In a variation on the usual Crimewatch format, the emphasis tonight is on making appeals in respect of cases which go back several years but have not been cleared up. The exercise may do more to intrigue the viewer than turn up crucial information but there is always a balance in these programmes between voyeurism and crime solving. The oldest case goes back to July 1989 when Peter and Gwenda Dixon from Oxfordshire were found shot dead on a coastal path in Wales. The appeal is for information about a cyclist seen in the area. Another unsolved murder is that of Patrick Kurling, a 45-year-old accountant, in 1990. Even at this distance in time it is hoped that a reconstruction will jog memories. Other crimes In a variation on the usual Crimewatch format, the reconstruction will jog memories. Other crimes leatured are armed robberies and two child abductions in Buckinghamshire. Peter Waymark.

Bricks and Mortar

Radio 2, today and tomorrow (see listings)
Radio 2 is becomingly increasingly fond of projects ranging over two days or more which attempt to betp listeners through various of life's minefields, not the least of which is buying or renting a home. Tom Conti introduces this project and it includes two phone-ins: one on housing policy at national and local levels during the Jimmy Young programme (today, 11.30am) and the other on home improvements and how to finance them in Pam Rhodes's show (tomorrow, 1.30pm). The subject of housing is of course close to the British heart, partly because it offers homage to the notion of the home as castle and because every castle needs constant attention from that British icon, the amateur handyman. Radio 2, today and tomorrow (see listings)

RADIO 1

6,30em Rovt Greening and 206 Sei 9,00 Simon Mayo 12,00

De Whiley 2,00pm Mark Raddiffe 4,00 Deve Peerce 6,15

Nawabeat 6,30 Evening Session 8,30 Digital Update 8,40 John

Peel Includes a session by Period Paint 10,30 Mary Anne

Hobbs 1,00em Clive Warren 4,00 Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6,00mm Sareh Kennedy 7,30 Wales Up to Wogen 9,30 Ken Bruce 11,30 Jimmy Young, Includes Bricks and Moder 1,30pm, Rejn Rhodes 3,00 Ed Stawen 5,05 John Dunn 7,00 Richard Stigos's Classical Gas 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 Ticking the lvorine. Last in the series 9.30 Helio, Derling, I'm Home-Flussell Davis reflects on 75 years of radio and TV families 12.05am Steve Madden 2.00 Alox Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE 6.00mm The Breaklast Programme 9.90 Nicky Campbell 12.00

Modely with Mair 2.00pm ruscoe on the substance 7.00 News Bota 7.50 The Tuesday Metch. Includes Ipavich Middlesbrough, West Brom v Manchester City and Shelfield United v Solke 10.00 News Talk with Nigel Cassidy 11.00 News Bota with David McNetl 12.00 After Hours 2.00em Up All Night with Rhod Sharp 5.00 Morning Reports VIRGIN RADIO

5,00cm Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evans 10.00 (FM) Robin Barks (AM) Graham Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MN) Nicky Home 4.00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyle (AM) Celmin Jones 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00mm Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorrains Kelly 2.00pm Torriny Boyd 4.00 Pater Desley 7.00 Anna Rasbum 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Isn Collins

. And Here's The Tape To Prove It Radio 4, 10.00am (FM only)

Radio 4, Introductive firm only?

Those who saw the remarkable film about polar bears on BBC 1 last Wednesday (November 26) should enjoy this programme, the start of a four-part series of audio diaries in which four people relive their adventures in the wild. Today the subject is Doug Allan, who filmed the bears in the Arctic. Allan explains how he got so close to the bears and in particular be talks about the extraordinary underwater footage of the bears swimming. I had assumed a remote control carnera was used but in fact Allan simply plunged into the icy water with an underwater camera and into the icy water with an underwater camera and filmed the bear swimming above him. It was the first time anyone had done that, "the one big chance" in Allan's phrase.

Peter Barnard

WORLD SERVICE

6.00mm Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Of the Shell: The Grass is Singing 7.30 Options 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Concert Hall 9.00 News; News in Pause for Thought 8.15 Concert He8 9.00 News; News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 8.15 The Deal with Drugs 9.30 Literature File: The Mit on the Pross 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 On Screen 11.80 Newsdesk 11.30 What Do Christians-Belleve? 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Health Matters 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Cutlook 2.30 Multitrack HR List 3.00 News: News in German (648 only) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Westway 3.30 The Greenfield Collection 4.00 News 4.15 Soundbyte 4.30 The World Today, News in German (648 only) 4.45 Britain Today, 5.00 Europa Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 One Planet; News in German (648 only) 7.00 News 7.07 Outlook 7.25 Pause to Thought 7.30 Megamin 8.00 Newsbour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.75 Britain Today 9.30 Meriden Live 10.00 Newsdesk Report 9.75 Britain Today 9.30 Meriden Live 10.00 Newsdesk 7-30 Megamix 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.75 Britain Today 9.30 Meriden Livo 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook 11.30 Megamix 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30 em The Ferming, World 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Discovery 2.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Meridien Live 3.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Discovery 2.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Fortis Roundup 3.30 One Planet 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00mm Nick Beiley, Includes Morning March and Bresklast Baroque 9.00 Henry Kely, Includes the Classic Masterpiece, Hait of Fame Hour and it recipe for vegetable curry 1.00pm Listener Request Hour with Jene Jones 2.00 Concerto Haydn (Violin Concerto No 1 in C) 3.00 Jernie Cnck 6.30 Newsmight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven with John Brunning 8.00 Everling Concert. Vaughen Witterns (Flourish for Gionous John): Verdi (Överture La Forza del Destino); Ravel (Valse Nobles et Sentimentales); Haydn (Cello Concerto No 2 in D); Sloeitus (Valse Trista); Herty (An high Symphony) 10.00 Michael Mappin; Includes at 11.35 Noctume 2.00em Concerto (d) 3.00 Merk Griffiths

RADIO 3

6,00am On Air, with Stephanie Hughes. Mccart
(Overture The Magic Flute); Copland (Old
American Songs); Vivaldi (Concerto in C for two
trumpets); Rossini, an Britten (Matinees
musicales); Johann Strauss, aon (Overture Die
Fledermaus); Respighi (Fountains of Rome)

9.00 Morning Colfection, with Peter Hobday, Wagner,
transcr Liszt (Overture Tannhauser); Schumann
(String Quartet in F); Bataldrev (Islamey); Holst (St
Paul's Suite, version for full orchestra)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris Wines. Purcell

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris Wines. Purcel (Two Fertazias); Chopin (Polaneise in F sharp minor); Rameau (Chaconne, Dardanus); Poulenc (Autade); Purcell (Fantazia upon One Note); (Aubade); Purcell (Fantazia upon One Note);
Beathoven (Sonata in C sharp minor, Moonlight);
Russell-Smith (Quiet Earth); Purcell (Two
Fantazias); Beethoven (String Trio in C minor)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Cole Porter

1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. A recital
given by the Brindisi Quartet. Stravinsky
(Concertino); Shostakovich (String Quartet No 7);
Beethoven (String Quartet in E minor,
Resumovsky) (r)

Beethoven (String Quertet in E minor, Resumovsky) (r)

2.00 The BBC Orchestrast, BBC Symphony Orchestra. Vaughan Williams (Overture The Wasps), under Alexander Lazarev, (The Lerk Ascending), with Michael Davis, violin: Britian (Simforita da Requiem); Brahms (Symphony No 2 in D), under Leonard Station)

4.00 Voices, lair Burnside presents a selection of songs on the theme of marriage

4.45 Music Machine, with Verify Sharp

5.00 In Tune. The percussionist Evelyn Glennie talks to Sean Railerly as she prepares for a concert to celebrate the 75th brithday of the composer Xenaka. Music includes Purcell, Richard Strauss

Xenalas Music includes Purcell, Richard Strauss and Mozert
7.45 Performance on 3 (Sounding the Century).
From the Cusen's Hall, Edinburgh, With James Clark, violin, Richard McMethon, piano, and Ursula Smith, cello, Fauré (Violin Sonata No 2 in Eminor) 8.30 Brilliant Creatures. Benjamin My contrasts the lives and patronage of Winaretts Singer—Is Princess de Polignac — and Marte-Laure de Noalites 8.50 Stravinsky (Scherzo: Berceuse, the Frebird); Ravel (Berceuse sur le nom de Gabriel Fauré); Pauré (Plano Trio in Diminor)
9.45 Postacript: Ashes and Phoenbiss (Sounding the Century). Stephen Johnson travels to Nuramberg to talk to the historian Hermann Glaser about German custure and society in the years immediately after the Second World War (2/5)
10.10 BBC Scottlish Symphony Orchestra, under Carno vanska, with Christian Lincberg, frombone. A parformance of Jen Sandstrom's interpretation of the life and times of Don Cubrote
10.45 Night Warriss. Richard Cotes reports on tonight's

Action of the second

- 19 m

. 10.45 Might Warves. Richard Coles reports on tonight's Turner Prize. Plus a report on the RSC's Culture, Business and Society

11.30 Composer of the Weels Massenet (r)

12.30em Jezz Notes, with Digby Fairweather. Another chance to hear the planist Rey Bryant in conversation.

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Medisod

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Call Ed Stourton Call 0171-580 4444

Today 8.40 Yesterday in Partiament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Call Ed Stourton Call 0171-580 4444 with your questions for the guest of the day 10.00 (F4f) News; ... And Here's the Tape to Prove It. See Choice (1/4) 10.00 (LW) News; Daily Service 10.15 (LW) Or This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler 10.30 Weather Hour, with Jerni Murray 11.30 Medicine Now. A look behind the scenes of the National Helath Service with Geoff Webs 12.00 News; You and Yourn, Consumer news and current affairs with John Waite 12.25pm Random Edition. Peter Snow presents stories from April 17, 1963 (2/6) 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (I)-1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; Thisty Missute Theatre: The Olivetti, by Owen O'Neil. A worman's life is transformed when she is given a typewriter. With Dianne Kelly, Aidan McArdie, Effect Policok 2.30 Mirrored in Muselc, Andrew Green talks to the planist Barry Douglas about ireland (5/6) 3.00 News 4.05 Keleidoscope. Paul Vaughan sees John Godber's new romartic cornedly for the Hull Truck Theatre Company 4.45 Short Story: Will You Marry Me? By Richard Brown, read by loan Meredin (f) 5.00 PM, with Care English and Chris Lowe 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Stx O'Clock News
6.30 North East of Eden. A corriedy series, by Peter
Kerry, A worren inherits her uncle's medical
practice, With Joan Sims, Rebecca Front and
James Garbutt (1/6) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archets
7.20 Fite on 4, Prasented by Lealey Curwen
8.00 Science New. A weekly look at the latest
scientific developments with Peter Evans (r)
8.30 The Network. Alun Lewis puts computing power
through its paces and sets whether having
access to more information means that we always
make better decisions (3/6)
9.00 In Touch, with Peter White
9.30 Kaleldosoope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with isabel Hitton
10.45 Book at Bedtitine: Another Time, Another
Place, by Jessie Kesson's account of an
Aberdeenshire iarm which takes on foreign
workers in 1944. Abridged by Brian McCabe, read
by Vicki Masson (7/10)
11.00 Medissamwave. A review of this week's events in
the media (r)

by Vicki Masson (7/10)

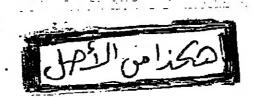
11.00 Medisurwave. A raview of this week's events in the media (1)

11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament. A roundup of the day's news from Westminster

11.30 (FM) Sentimental Journey. Arthur Smith presents the third of a sty-part series about travel experiences. Val Domican returns to Copenhagen after a break of 40 yeers (r)

12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Metroland. Julian Barnes reads his first novel (2/10) (r).

FREQUENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.8-99.8, RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 893, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.558m). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102 VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio fistings compiled by Peter Deer, Isin Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Isine Gregory and John McNamara.



Exploration engenders yet more mysteries

watching the telly last night, you almost definitely saw Channel 4's Equinox episode called Mindreaders, which explored the idea that men and women behave in essentially different ways. This is because, being a man, you would have been (a) eager to learn more on this important subject, and (b) too lazy to search for the remote control to switch to another channel.

But even before watching the programme you probably had a gut feeling that men approached the world in different ways. Whereas women are attracted to emotional subjects, men are keen on spectacular scientific phenomena such as space travel. Pentagon Stealth bombers for which even the key-fob for the ignition key costs more than your entire house. and Pamela Anderson's bra size. Not that men have no consider-

having a washing machine in the home, even though they know that it is just a female frippery that has no real purpose — as can be witnessed by the fact that if our wives happen to be away for a week, leaving us to fend for oursives, we men manage to survive very easily without ever turning the washing machine on once. Of course, the minute they're back home. ON it goes again. Explain that, if you can!

Equinox was exploring these differences by looking at autistic behaviour. Why? Not because it wanted to tell us about autism, but because it wanted to discover what autstics are telling us about ourselves. What Equinox seemed to be suggesting was that there is a continuum of autism: at one end of this continuum you will find the most extreme cases of autistic behaviour, and at the other you ation for the feelings of others: will find what passes for preny

While emphasising that autism doesn't imply mental backwardness [Temple Grandin, America's of Science at Colorado State University), it was suggesting that autistics and "normal" men share the same tendencies in emotional detachment and in their understanding of, and interest towards, the physical world (that's apparently why computer nerds and trainspotters tend to be male). Women are better at intuitive and social tasks: they have a better grasp of emotional matters; they are better "mindreaders".

hether or not the documentary made its points completely persuasively. or very clearly, it provided an interesting angle from which to view some of last night's other programmes. Spark (BBCI), for instance, now in its fourth week.





Joe Joseph

James Fleer's Ashley, the star of this sitcom, is a middle-aged bachelor. He is supposedly competent to run his own computer business. but happens to have the physical co-ordination and emotional maturity of a walnut.

This man may be recognisable to the people from Equinax, but not to me. I had been assuming he was a particularly sorry case of "Sitcom Man": Frank Spencer, but

without the gravitas. Luckily, Ash-ley has everything a weak. "Siscom Man" needs to keep him function ing: a daily who provides him with an audience for his "Sitcom Man" views on life, and a sexually neglected sister-in-law (Jan Francis) who furnishes him with basic bedroom advice and may, the way things are looking, end up as his first sexual partner.

While shows such as Seinfeld. Larry Sanders, Frasier and Friends juggle three plots at once. Spark can barely keep one in the the air. The linearity of Spark's plot and the predictability of its dialogue were cruelly exposed by I'm Alan Partridge (BBC2). The deposed chat show host Partridge is in roughly the same place as Ashley in the autistic-man/normal-man continuum, but - because of the quality of the script, and the spooky skill with which Steve Coogan inhabits Partridge's skin - carries off his inadequacy

According to Equinox, autistic people cannot fathom what other people are thinking. They cannot read between the lines of body language. They have no interest in what other people are thinking. They rarely have friends, they steer clear of sexual relationships because they don't really know how to cope with them, and they are incapable of recognising a wide range of emotional states in others, such as disgust, pity, incredulity, and embarrassment.

Those are the very emotional responses that greet Alan Partridge every day, and he can never recognise any of them. That is why he steers a path though life that is as graceful as a pinball in play.

s for The Simpsons (BBC2), A it has a father figure in Homer Simpson who can harely understand himself, let alone others. Last night his jealousy of his hard-working, ever-chirpy neighbour, Ned Flanders, persuaded Homer to make a wish that his neighbour's new business - a shop selling items for left-handed people - would fail. When his wish came true and Flanders was on the brink of bankruptcy, Homer felt so guilty that he rallied

It is part of the brilliance of The Simpsons that between Ashley, Alan Partridge and Homer Simpson, it is Matt Groening's cartoon character that most closely reflects the way that seemingly dumb, lazy, insensitive men will often redeem themselves in real life - if only women would stop playing with their washing machines long enough to realise that men are just like any other living, breathing creature on God's earth. At least any other living, breathing creature who would rather drive for 812 hours when covering a six-mile journey than admit they're lost.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breaklast (93685) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (81753) 9.00 Good Living (1590598) 9.25 Style Challenge (1579005) 9.50 Kilrov (1) (2217395)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1087260) 10.55 The Really Useful Show (8086734) 11.35 Change That (3202685) 12.00 News (T) regional news and weather

12.05pm Call My Bluff (2937685) 12.35 Give Us A Clue (5600173) 1.00 News (T) and weather (84840) 1.30 Regional News (17779314) 1.40 The Weather Show (86673173) 1.45 Neighbours (1) (72092647) 2.05 Quincy (1/2) (r) (1396937)

2.55 Wogan's Best of Blankety Blank 3.30 Playdays at The Playground Stop (r) (7036482) 3.50 Arthur (7047598) 4.15 Fudge (r) (T) (3633289) 4.35 It'll Never Work (2925208) 5.00 Newsround (T) (3436983) 5.10 Aquila. New senes: two

boys stumble across an ancient spaceship (T) (6625531) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (7) (349579) 6.00 News (T) and weather (89) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (69)

7.00 Holiday Setf-drive camping in Serdinia: Barbados, Scarborough, Madrid and Spain's castles, Galway for less than £100 (T) (8734)

7.30 EastEnders Emotions run high as Frank offers Ricky a shoulder to cry on; and Pat finally loses patience with Roy (1) (53) 8.00 Mysteries with Carol Vorderman Carol Vorderman explores the telepathic powers of twins (T) (7482)

8.30 A Question of Sport John Parrott and Ally McCoist are joined by Tim Henman, Mark Ramprakash, Steve Regrave and John Regis Sue Barker is in the chair (1)

9.00 News (T) regional news and weather

9.30 One Foot in the Grave Margaret joins the local amateur dramatic society and Victor begins penning a sitcom script (r) (31173) WALES: 9.30-10.00 Week in Week Out (31173)

10.00 CHOICE Crimewatch UK: Stril Unsolved Jill Dando and Nick Ross appeal for information on cases including the shooting of holidaymakers on a Pembrokeshire path in 1989 and two child abductions in Buckinghamshire

10.50 The Eagle Has Landed (1976) Wartime adventure adapted from Jack Higgins's bestseller about Nazi agents inlitrating an English village as part of a plot to kidnap Winston Churchill Starring Michael Caine and Donald Sufferland Directed by John Sturges (T) (43380840) WALES: 10.50 One Foot in the Grave (508579) 11,20 Social Action Week 1997 (284759) 11.25 FILM Sixteen Car (1984) (882024) 12.50mm News (8346593) 12.55 BBC Nows 24

1.00em Weather (9017222) 1,05 BBC News 24

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels,

SHA FOR OFFICE I (Tagraponder 26)

(A) BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)

Chain Reaction (1996) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transpander 59)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

V BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 58)

6.00sm Scoul's Honour (1980)
345(35)31 7.45 Linie Bigfoot fit The Journey Home (1995) (35235482) 8.00 Kiss Me Goodbye (1882) (76250802) 1.10pm The Road to Galveston (1996) (30254) 2.00 Butch and Sundence: The Early Days (1978) [47519) 5.00 Little Bigfoot fit The Journey Home (1996) (35902) 7.00 The Road to Galveston (1996) (12647) 9.00 When Saturday Cornes (1995) (14444) 11.00 From Dust TBI Darm (1996) (1703753) 12.45sm Love Affair (1994) (475357) 2.30 Harry and Tortio (1974) [230155] 4.25 Kiss Me Goodbye (1882) (120067)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.00em Hollywood Cavalende (1939) 19731 8.00 Munchle Strikes Back (1995) (73.00) 10.00 Nightstare Alley (1947) (43.799) 12.00 Richle Rich (1994) (803) 11 1,40pm The Bible (1908)

Each film costs \$2.99 per wewing

SKY 1

VirisoPtus + and the Video PlusCodes The numbers next to each 17 programme Isting are Video PlusCode" numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder metantly with a VideoPlus " handset. Tool in like Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus ("). PlusCode (") and Video Programme are trademarks of Gernster Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00em Arts: Stand by Your Banneri (14666) 6.30 La Bonne Formula (52753) 7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (T and

7.15 Teleturibbles (r) (2798482) 7.40 Penelope Pitstop (r) (8159043) 8.05 Blue Peter (r) (f) (6344260) 8.30 The Secret Life of bys (r) (8748685) 8.45 The Record (6591460) 9.10 Practising Belief (6321579) 9.25 See You, See Me (4450734) 9.45 Numbertime (9013463) 10.00 Teletubbies (r) (43005) 10.30 Watch (5229024) 10.45 Teaching Today

(226598) 11.15 Megamaths (T) (9987111) 11.35 History File (3200227) 12.00 See Hear (r) (T) (22937) 12.30pm Working Lunch (59579) 1.00 Fiddley Foodle Bird (50874802) 1.10

The History Hour from the north Nortok coast (2760734) 2.10 Going, Going, Gone (64936631) 2.40 News (T) 2.45 Westminster (T) (5239579) 3.25 News (T) 3.30 The Village (r) (47) 4.00 Ready Steady Cook (82) 4.30 Through the Keyhole (2924579) 4.55 Esther: Child Smokers (5303005) 5.30 Today's the Day

6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (1/2) (T)

6.25 Hearthreak High (T) (999531) 7.10 The O Zone The Lightning Seeds; and the contenders for the Best New Band award at the Smash hits Poll Winners' Party, Five, Chill and 98 Degrees

7.30 From the Edge Reports on issues affecting the disabled (95) 8.00 University Chaltenge New Hall, Cambridge v Nottingham University (T)

8.30 Food and Drink Wines for under £12; chocolate terrine with prunes (T) (4531) 9.00 Timewatch: Lenin's Secret Files Lenin's secret personal files revealed for the first time (1)



Ann returns to the words (9.50pm)

9.50 CHOICE Back to the Floor: Pillow
Talk Hospital chief erecutive Ann Lloyd becomes an autoliary nurse

10.20 Best Friends (T) (113463) 10.30 Newspiokt (T) (670531) 11.15 Sainfeld (T) (721869) 11.40 The Larry Sanders Show (1) (935395) 12.00 The Midnight Hour (5406086)

12.25em Weather (3964319) 12.30 Learning Zone: The Making of Edwina Currie (8364999) 12.35 Leaders and Dictators Naon and Ford (8770777) 1.35 Late Great Britons, Churchill (8542116) 2,00 Schools PSHE - Lifeschool U-Z (31338) 4.00 Languages German (50715) 5.00 Business and Training. Sports and lessure industries (35154)

6.00am GMTV (2085956) 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (1588753) 9.55 Regional News (7331395) 10.00 The Time, the Place (30531) 10.30 This Morning (T) (97823685) 12.20pm Regional News (9722375) 12.30 News (T) and weather (5636598)

12.55 Shortland Street (5611289) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (73940550) 1.50 Ouisine (T) (51481799) 2.20 Countdown to Christmas (T) (45494734) 2.50 Vanessa; Tall People (T) (4341685)

3.20 News (T) (5868163) 3.25 Regional News (6218604) 3.30 The Riddlers (2463753) 3.40 Wizadora

(8502395) 3.50 The Adventures of Paddington Bear (8508579) 4.00 2zzap! Christmes Annuals (7065598) 4.15 Hey Arnold! (3642937) 4.40 The Ward 5.10 WALES: Don't Try This at Home, Kids! (9605889)

5.10 Relative Knowledge (9605869) 5.40 News (T) and weather (515685) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (359482) 6.25 Regional Weather (235463) 6.30 Regional News (T) (37)

7.00 Emmerdale Kathy is worried that Doug is trying to buy her affections. Rachel tries to make peace with Serah (T) (3802) 7.30 WALES: Your Century: Wrestham (21) 7.30 Take 3 with reports from Richard Wyatt, Julia Caesar and a viewer (21)

8.00 The Bill: The Same Stripe Things look even bleaker for Ackland when her trusted informer disappears without trace (T) (2/2) (2550)



Cook exposes the bad guys (8.30pm)

8.30 The Cook Report Exposing more dodgy businesses (T) (1685) 9.00 Soldier, Soldier: Sounds of War Angela angers Fitzpatrick by denying Chris a full military funeral, while a shocking revelation leaves Rossi facino

his own oblivion (T) (7579) 10.00 News (T) and weather (10192) 10.30 Regional News (612109) 10.40 Savage Earth; Out of the Inferno The

most deadly of the world's 500 volcanoes in a volatile, dangerous state (1) (145260) 11.40 WALES: Highlander (2/2) (551884) 11.40 Charlie Grace: Designer Knock-Off (551884)

12.35am Planet Mirth (3292883) 1.10 Late and Loud (6647319) 2.05 The Chart Show (r) (5892883) 3.00 Football Extra (r) (1013864) 3.55 World of Salling (r) (76147135) 4.20 Sound Bites (24395777) 4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (79410932) 5.00 Heirloom (r) (75628) 5.30 News (35425)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except: 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (5611289)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9605869) 6.25-7.00 Central News (289696) 7.30-8.00 The Tuesday Special (21) 11.40 Highlander (551884)

12.45 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club 1.15 Real Stories of the Highway Patroi

1.40 War of the Worlds (9278932) 2.30 The Paul Ross Show (7295338) 3.55 Central Jobfinder '97 (2149338) 5.20 Asian Eve (4826593)

WESTCOUNTRY As HTV West except:

12.55 Home and Away (7720579) 1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (53034032) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9605869) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (54024) 7.30-8.00 Blooming Marvellous - on the

11.40 Highlander (362260)

Road (21)

A SAMERIDIAN AS As HTV West except 1.50-2.20 The Fashion Police (51481799) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9605869) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (85)

6.30-7.00 Relative Knowledge (37) 7.30-8.00 Ambulancel (21) 11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (362260) 5.00am Freescreen (75628)

ANG IN As HTV West except 12.55-1.25 The Fashion Police (6611289) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9605869)

r (236192) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (289666) 7.30-8.00 Out to Lunch with Brien Turner

11.40 First Take (406208)

12.10am Movie Show Special (6425203) **S0**4-20 Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (74463) 9.00 Yagolion (500050) 11.30 Powerhouse (9444) 12.00 Sesame Street (17005)

12.30pm Ricki Lake (44647) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (50883550) 1.15 Pingu (50888005) 1.30 Gardens without Borders (17753376) 1.45 Film: Seven Days to Noon (91940463)

3.30 Collectors' Lat (43) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (50) 4.30 United Tastes of America (34) 5.00 5 Pump: Uned 5 (1208) 5.30 Countdown (14)

6.00 Newyddion (722314) 6.10 Heno (397024) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (470869) 7.25 Gwyn A'l Pyd: De Affrica (933395) 8.00 Y Sice Gelf (2032) 8.30 Newyddion (9227)

9.00 Y Palment Aur (8821) 10.00 Brookside (986444) 10.35 Frasier (595005) 11.05 Brit Girls (106531) 12.05am-2,05 The Turner Prize (140999)

CHANNEL 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (74463)

9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (T) (1583208) 9.22 Lost Animals (3576802) 9.30 Eureka! (1) (9010376) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (1) (9008531) 10.00 Fourways Farm (8555647) 10.10 TVM (T) (9531840) 10.25 How We Used to Live (1) (9527647) 10.45 Quest (1) (5219647) 11.00 First Edition IV (1738290) 11.15 Stage One (1) (1751111)

11.30 Powerhouse (1) (9444) 12.00 Sesame Street (17005) 12.30pm Light Lunch (30173) 1.30 Domo Animation

1,35 10 North Frederick (1958, b/w) with Gary Cooper and Suzy Parker. A drame about a middle-aged lawyer who has an affair with his estranged daughter's 25-year-old roommate. Directed by Philip

3.30 Collectors' Lot An exhibition of the Swedish designer, Karl Larsson's work; a collection of cosmetics and banjos (T) (43) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (50) 4.30 Countdown (T) (2919647) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (5398173) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (14) 6.00 Moviewatch Film magazine presente

by Johnny Vaughan (27) 6.30 Roseanne Roseanne and Dan realise they are drifting apart when she takes a second job, working nights (r) (T) (79)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (694869) 7.55 Writing About Art (154579)

8.00 Deats on Wheels Series offering advice on buying a second-hand car (4/6) (T)

8.30 Brookside Peter and Lindsey celebrat their engagement. Will someone spoil the party? Jacqui takes a test, and has



Artist Angela Bullock (9.00pm)

The Turner Prize Live from the Tate Gallery, London. introduced by Matthew Collings. Shortlisted this year are Christine Borland, Angela Buflock, Cornelle Perker and Gillian Wearing (T) (8821)

10.00 Underworld Black cornedy thritter staming Alun Armstrong, James Fleet and Susan Wooldridge. William, Susan and husband for help (5/6) (T) (8208)

11.00 Rory Bremmer - Who Else? (f) 11.35 The Turner Prize Discuss

Painting Dead? Chaired by Waldeman Januszczak and Karen Wright. The pane includes the art critic of The Times, Richard Cork (202024) 12.40em Late Night Ricki Lake (r)(3337339) 1.25 The Bureau (3/4) (r) (6160406) 2.25 My Cousin Bobby (r) (T) (3329067) 3.40

Photo Romans (r) (76159970) 4.00 Schools: Top (962970) 5.40 Spring Term Preview (6520609)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 83 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (4783043)

7.30 Milkshake! (7063802) 7.35 Kablam! (9655395) 8.00 Havakezoo (r) (2756109) 8,30 WideWorld Series on the Victorian world. Looking at the first house to have domestic electricity in 1863 (3/10) (7601050)

9.00 Espresso (7527395) 10.00 Exclusive (r) (4982734) 10.30 Period Rooms (r) (T)

11.00 Leeza Chat show (3801956) 11.50 Double Espresso (90467227) 12.00 Tha Bold and the Beautiful (T) (9506685) 12.30pm Farnily Alfairs (r) (T) (1083192) 1.00 5 News Update (88325482) 1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (4676314) 2.00 5's Company (3671192)

3.30 The Judge and Jake Wyler (1972) starring Bette Davis and Doug McClure. Adventure drama about an eccentric retired female judge who now runs a private detective agency staffed by one-time corrvicts. Directed by David Lowell

Rich (9070209) 5.20 5's Company: Late Extra (56337289) 5.30 Whittle (T) (4249956)

6,00 100 Per Cent Game show without a host 6.30 Family Affairs Melanie sees Roy in a different light (T) (4220621)

7.00 Exclusive Entertainment news (5698734) 7.30 Animai Outposts: Second Wave A new series begins with a look at Nature's attempts to survive in the face of human

encroechment (1/7) (T) (4226005) spends a day with the designer Zandra Rhodes (T) (5607482)



9.00 Against All Odds (1984) Rachel Ward and Jelf Bridges star in this drama about a former football star who is hired by a mobster to find his mis-Directed by Taylor Hackford (10933192) 11.15 The Jack Docherty Show The guests include John Sessions (5495937)

1.00am Live and Dangerous Sports magazine presented by Dominik Diamond and Shelley Webb (46177086) 4.35 The Streets of San Francisco starring Karl Malden (T) (5318357)

Riders 1.30 Cities of the World 2.00 Worldwide Guide 2.30 The Reviours of

Wordwide Gude 2.30 The Remours of France 3.00 Rathray Adventures Across Europe 2.30 Wet end Wid 4.00 Snow Salan 4.30 Beyond Borders 6.00 Apocta Britain 6.30 On Tour 6.00 Aspects of Life 6.30 Innocent Abroad 7.00 Chicot's World Cup 8.00 Reel World 8.30 Snow Salan 8.00 Destinations 10.00 Greg's World 10.30 On the Honcon 11.00 Amezing Roces 11.30 Flights Over Spain 12.00 Close

1.00pm Massacre at Malmedy (4171294 5.00 Civil War Journal (2539666) 6.00

12.00pm Food Network Delly 12.30 Africand Cooking 1.00 Food for Thought 1.30 Aldo's tablen Job 2.00 Chef for a Day 2.30 Food Network Delly 3.06 The Green Gournat 3.30 Graham Ken's Kitchen 4.00 For Better, for Worse 4.30 Frances Bissel's West Country Kitchen 5.00 Close

6.00cm Tiny Living 9.00 Why Me? 9.30 Gordon Elioti 10.10 Jerry Springer 11.00 Young and the Rectless 11.55 Brookside 12.25pm Jerrys 5 12.55 Cheap Che 12.55 Ready, Swady, Cook 2.05 Hart to Hart 1.00 Line of Three 4.05 Jerry Springer 5.00 Rokarde 5.50 Cheap Che 6.20 Ready, Steady, Cook 7.00 Rescue 911 7.20 Mysteas, Mage and Marches 9.00 Advancian Junios 9.00 FBJM: Dancing in the Dark 11.00 Sey Life Down Under 12.00 Close 7FF TV

5.00 Civil War Journal (253966) 6.0 Ancient Mysteries (794043) 7.00 Biogra phy: The Earp Brothers (2003531)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

CARLTON FOOD (cable)

LIVING

ZEE TV

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7575932)

12.00 Prisoner: Cell Block H Judy and Lizzie

write to the Ombudsman (5807319)

SATELLITE AND CABLE



SKY SPORTS 1 Sports Centre (75379) 9,00 Ricory News (56531) 9,30 Aerobics (92621) 10,00 Sports: Primora Uga (12665) 12,00 Aerobics (76395) 12,30pm Football Sports) (61029) 2,30 Sportsh Primora Uga (69550) 4,30 V May (5376) 5,00 Wresting (6173) 8,00 2.30 Sporter Health 194 Section 1778 8.00 Sports Centra (8869) 8.30 Tarian Bera (1991) 7.00 Cheleft Mark Masters (23060) 10.00 Sports Centra (77004) 10.30 Footballets Football Show (60314) 11.30 Tarian Berg (74305) 12.00 Sports Centra (19706) 19.39800 Cheleft 2507241 Centre (18796) 12:30am Cricket (2007241) 3:30 Footballers' Football Show (53425) 4.30 Scorts Centre (56529) 5,00 Close

9,00pm The Big Sleep (1946) (55119537) 11,00 The Black Bird (1926) (32955753) 1,00em Hot Millions (1968) (32913777) 3,00 The Big Sleep (1946) (62325118)

7,00cm Acrobics (9133598) 7:39 Sports Contro (913005) 8:00 Rapris Novis (594250) 8:30 Fish TV (3483391) 9:30 Legaro Review (7938208) 10:00 World Magor Sport (3735173) 1:00cm Davis Gup Final (4541444) 5:00 Pro Beach Scoop Final (4541444) \$.00 Pro Beach Scoop (1539856) 4.00 Scorp Limmed (194004) 7.00 Sports Centre (253939) 7.00 Rughy Union England A v All Bladis — Leo (153939) 9.30 Psi. (4577173 11.30 Sports Union (154984) 11.30 Sports Union (154984) 11.30 Sports Centre (19108425) 1.30 Rughy Union (1568425)

7.30 Chmpic Games (59192) 8.00 Speedeorid (32227) 8.00 World Cup Cualfier; (40956) 11.00 Eurogoals (87109) 12.30pm World Cup Dream Team (98005) 1.00 Traction (8000) 2.00 Sobsteph (51375) 4.00 Eurogoals (51647) 5.30 Chroad Magazine (40004) 6.30 Freende Magazine (2239) 7.00 Boxing — Live (50821) 9.00 Foczesh Intercontentat Cup (98055) 11.00 Stopparture (50805) 12.00 (85955) 11.00 Showumping (55005) 12.00 (Shrpp: Garres Magazine (93244) 12.30mm Cose UK GOLD

7,00mm Worzel Gummidge (46605791 7.26 Negrobours (4646444) 8.00 Crossroads (27) (753) 8.25 EastEnders (6368918) 9.00 1271 1753 8.25 EastEnders (6368916) 9.00 The 9.1 (6557176) 9.30 Horacets Way (9577919) 10.00 Block This House (1945579) 10.30 The Sullaurs (6566260) 11.00 Bloom (8590566) 12.00 Constraint (656769) 12.55 EastEnders (758208) 1.36 H-Qe-H- (1773227) 2.10 2point Chudrer (644589) 2.90 Las of the Summer Wine (960230) 3.30 The 84 (303929) 4.00 Jules Barrio (38161821) 3.06 EastEnders (65551711 5.49 Blots Full House (461389) 4.25 That's Strandbarnes (9602640) 7.00 Last of the Summer Wine (9002640) 7.45 The Live Shortpastrass (97335-40) 7,00 Last of the Summer Wine (332319) 7,45 The Liver Brids (9619376) 8,20 2point4 Children (1494727) 9,00 The Edi (1252173) 9,30 Sportise (6072329) 10,40 French and Sumport (6072329) 11,20 Cannel Carno (477129) 12,00 Fillats Betrayel of Si-lence (1989) (4389135) 1,40acr Maria Voa (272051) 2,30 Shopping (8861203)

GRANADA PLUS 4.00mm The Scs (8580734) 7.00 Coronation St (6384289 7.00 Families (6396074) 8.00 Upstars Deenstars (4452314) 19.00 Denature



(9776260) 1,30 Please Sri (2667192) 2,00 Upctars. Downstars (7491482) 3,00 Donebus (762524 4,00 Misson Impostor (7604531) 5,00 Harca Fig. (3489387) 6,00 Families (7752588) 6,30 Coordabatt St (7736560) 7,00 Band Data (3489387) 8,00 Harca (3489387) 6,00 Harca (34 [8] 492711 8.00 Hart to Hart (2105830) 9.00 Coronston St (7633043) 9.30 Hally and Page (280898) 10.00 Hawai Five-D (1737442) 11.00 Clase

CARLTON SELECT (cable) 5.00pm Gndock (43782901) 5.30 Hey Dad I (23191463) 6.00 Blockbusters (28198376) 1(231) 16.3(4.00) 1500-16035 (231935) 7.00 4.30) A County Procese (261) 2955) 7.00 4ly Two Wives (23382) 45) 7.30 Our House (2610) 8.00 Desmont's (13087753) 8.30 The Big One (38837050) 8.00 Smme On, Hanny Moon (56103376) 10.00 The Price (56105463) 11.00 St Elementer (84822550) 12.00 Let the Blood Run Fried (62233116) 12.30mm Tales of the Unce-(63263116) 12.30mm Tales of the Units pected (54574932) 1.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL

6,00em Umbrella Tree 6,30 Rosie and Jim 6,45 Warne the Pools 7,00 Aladdar; The

es 7.30 Tex Avery 8.00 Dinesaus 8.30

Bonkors 9.00 Gummi Bears 9.30 Chip 'n' Date 9.55 Mouse and Mole 10.00 Sesame Date 9.55 Mouse and Mote 10.00 Sessme St 11.00 Winner the Pook 11.15 Robe and Jim 11.25 Sing Mit a Story 12.00 Tots TV 12.00pm it's Fun to Learn with Spot 12.45 Winner the Pook 1.00 Sessme St 2.00 Ansaring Ahmels 2.30 Gurani Beans 3.00 Tale Spin 3.30 Gool Troop 4.00 Timon and Pumbra 4.30 Alaction. The Saries 5.00 Gargoyles 6.30 Dinosaurs 6.00 Biossom 6.30 Boy Meds World 7.00 Home Improve-ment 7.30 Wonder Years 8.00 File: The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes 9.30 Home Improvement 10.00 Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6.00mm Delly 6.30 Billy the Cat 7.00 Processio 7.30 Power Ranges Zeo 8.00 Seetstoogs 6.30 Masked Rides 9.00 Magge Box 8.30 Ducley 10.00 Inspector Gadget 10.30 Pozza Cats 11.00 Sweet Valloy High 12.00 Aco Ventura 12.30pm Caspor 1.00 The Tick 1.30 Per Nonex See 1.00 Seets 12.30 Per See 1.30 Per Seets 1.30 P 3.30 Power Rangers Zeo 3.00 Bestleborgs 3.30 Masked Rider 4.00 Ace Ventura 4.30 on 6.30 Sweet Valley High

6.00am Happily Ever Atter 6.30 Bobby's

World 7:00 Sprou 7:20 Dermis the Menace 8:00 Behman 8:30 Behman 9:00 Earthworm Inn 9:30 Pormueld the Reindeer 10:00 Oscar's Oschester 10:30 Plash Gordon 11:00 tariogoud 11:30 Gegenter 12:00 Sprou 12:30pm Sono 1:00 Behman 1:30 Alf a Time Tarvellen 2:00 tariogoud 2:30 Flash Gordon 3:00 Sono 3:30 Earthworm Jim 4:00 Dermis the Manace 4:30 Behman NICKELODEON 8.00am Killer Tomatoes 6.30 Aashtri Res

8.00 km Kölar Tomatosc 6.00 Azahtri Resi Monsters 7.00 key Arnold 7.200 Rugass 8.00 Doug 8.30 Newsrending Story 8.00 CBBC 10.00 Wrype's House 10.30 Bebar 11.00 Mago School Bas 11.30 Banaras in Pyemas 12.00 Paddington Bear etc 12.30pm Lutie Red Tractor etc 1.00 CBBC School 2.30 CBBC 3.30 Rodo/Doug 4.00 Angly Bearers 4.20 Rugast 5.00 Sister Scar 5.30 Rener and Not 8.00 Schore the Terrage Witch 6.30 Moesta 7.00 Close TROUBLE 12.00pm Swor's Crossing 12.30 Ready or Not 1.00 Madison 1.30 California Dreams 2.00 Swen's Crossing 3.008-2-5.320 Ready or Not 3.008-2-5.320 Ready or Not 3.00 Swed by the Bet 4.30 USA Hot 5.00 Hanglime 5.30 California Dreams 6.00 TX Six 6.30 Madison 7.00 Hanglime 7.30 USA Hoth 8.00 Cove

Hest 8.00 Glose CHALLENGE TV 5.00pes Cross Wits 5.30 Move on Up 6.00 Tarriny Fortunes 8.30 Cetchphrase 7.15 The 994,000 Question 8.00 Soft Second 8.30 Karaoke Challenne 8.48 M Ins as 4,000 Linston 4,00 Spit Second 8,20 Karook Chalenge 9,15 Winner Tales. All 10,00 Treasure Hunt 11,15 Karache Challange 12,00 Say the Word 12,30em Hart to Hen 1,30 The Big Velley 2,30 Explore 3,30 Where (Live 4,00 Jean Sans-Frontieres 5,00 Screenshop

BRAVO 8.00pm A.Team (4309531) 9.00 Tour of Duty (4329095) 10.00 Red Shoe Dianes

(1839767) 5.00 Searsby and Hutch PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Linder Fre (5444) 7.30 Rosenne (4847) 8.00 Elen (4192) 8.30 Cybil (3227) 9.00 Cheers (48337) 9.30 Yass (14043) 10.00 Frasier (75666) 10.30 Kerry Everett (84314) 11.00 Fostival of Fun (43482) 11.30 Elen (32937) 12.00 Rosenne (16338) 12.30em Nightstand (50661) 1.00 Soop (33777) 1.30 Tas (72154) 2.00 Festival of Fun (46222) 2.30 Grace Under Fine (53357) 3.00 Frasier (46241) 3.30 Kerry Everett (56609) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm; Sightings (3431950) 8.00 Derk Sees (3451314) 10.00 Allen Voices (3421173) 11.00 Fnday he 13n (674385) 12.00 Sightings (9984244) 1.00am fwelight Zone (8021357) 1.00 Tales of the Unexpose of (3833067) 2.00 Dark: Shadows (7953338) 2.30 New Histhoods (7954845) 3.00 Fridity he 13th 19723772 4.00 Cone. 3.00 Friday the 13th (9733777) 4.00 Clos

HOME & LEISURE 9.00mm Jay of Peinting 9.30 Gentler Oldo 10.00 Great Gentlering Plot 10.30 New Yankee Wiczishop 11.00 Analy's Angling Adventures 11.30 Hometime 12.00 Witself Advantures 11.30 Hometime 12.00 Wined Nuts 12.30pm This Clid House 1.00 Year Can Cook 1.30 Restoration Genre 2.00 Furniture Guys 2.30 Antiques Trail 3.00 Two S Country 3.30 Home Again 4.00 Close DISCOVERY

4,00pm The Dicernan (3316173) 4.20 Roudshow (2345685) 5.00 Ancient Warmors (8563043) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (3338337) 6.00 Kerbodley — Land of the Wendiger (2887395) 7.00 Mysterious University (2887395) 7.00 Dicester (3346314) 8.00 Recovery (48874305) 9.00 Recovery (4887405) Discover Magazini (4372009) 9.00 Raging Planet (4332969) 10.00 Invisible Places (433956) 11.00 Test Place (8571173) 12.00 The Discrete (7718319) 12.30em hder (7329999), 1,00 Dasester 106) 1,30 Beyond 2000 (9304203)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm The Fox and the Shark (8205685) August fire Fox and the some reachessy 8.00 Urban Gorilla (2281005) 9.00 Orasan-go Magic (8201869) 10.00 Crassing the Midnight Sun (8204966) 11.00 Mezmer Folder on the Road (528276) 12.00 Rivers of Life (2156154) 1.00em Cicse

TRAVEL (cable)

6.30am Pashuku Pashu 7.00 Jesgran 7.30 Busness 8.00 Busness News 8.15 Music 8.20 Pashus 9.00 Revents 8.20 Health Store 10.00 Parhadan 11.00 Shahi Dawat 11.30 Boat (An Jaye 12.00 Soltarb 12.30pan Pashus 1.30 Firsh 4.00 Cuzz Cortest 4.30 On a Hat Tack 5.00 Amax Kathyan 5.30 Nayu. A.Z. 6.00 Hum Pasach 6.30 Pop Busters 7.00 Apr Ki Farmash 7.30 Chalo Cnema 8.00 News 8.30 Dates 9.00 Hum Asp Ke Ham Woh 9,30 like Pe lide: 10,00 Tera 11,00 Sa Re Ga Ma

The 24 hour music channel VH-1



FOOTBALL 48 Coleman joins the jet-setters at Craven Cottage **SPORT**

Westwood ready to take a leading role



TUESDAY DECEMBER 2 1997

Seeding now unlikely for England

Hoddle ready to accept loss of status

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN MARSEILLES

THE giant cranes towered over the docks, the shunting engines pushed and pulled their cargoes around the railway yards and the shoppers flitted from window to win-dow on La Canebiere, but nowhere in this port city was there more hustle and bustle than at the Stade Velodrome. In a sport that draws its lifeblood from winning and losing, there has never been more excitement over the prospect of a draw.

At the stadium on the south side of the city, where the qualifiers for the World Cup finals in France next year will discover on Thursday in which group they have been placed, construction workers began to erect the stage on which the ceremony will take place and officials readied themselves for the arrival of the representatives of 32 countries that have qualified.

The buzz of expectation, the sense that this is the beginning of the great jamboree, the festival of football that will start at the Stade de France in Paris on June 10, was heightened by fevered speculation

CONFIRMED SEEDS

BRAZIL FIFA ranking 1 FRANCE 7

PROBABLE SEEDS

PLUS TWO FROM -

GERMAN SPARI ITALY ARGENT

ENGLAND

ACROSS

E. Eur. country; senior

Speak (criticism) plainly (3.5.5)

10 Join (metal) by heat (4)

13 (Eg reverently) quiet (6)

Amazons author (7)

23 Causing excited argument

Cartoon film drawer (8)

THESESTIMES

20 NT book; deeds (4)

24 Placid, broken in (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1265

11 Colonist (7)

about the identity of the eight privileged teams who will be admitted to the ranks of the

top seeds.

Most of the gossip surrounded the status likely to be awarded to England. Calculations complex enough to barnboozle a bank of computers all seemed to point to the fact that, despite their performance in qualifying above Italy to reach the finals. Glenn Hoddle's team would proba-bly be lumped in with the second group of seeds.

The latest information from Fifa, the world governing body, was that the meeting of the World Cup Organising Committee today would allocate the top seedings on the basis of an aggregate of Fifa rankings over the past three years in combination with performances at the past three World Cups. Whichever way it came out, England did not

make the top eight. Their only hope, it seems, is that the pragmatic considerations that so often rule decisions like this, reasons such as the commercial disadvantages inherent in losing England

OTHER QUALIFIERS

TWO

No 1266

ACROSS: 1 Pub crawl 5 Chip 9 Rusty 10 Learned 11 Doublet 12 Loyal 13 Thin on top 18 Ember 20 Gymslip 22 Burnett 23 Tease 24 Lung 25 Offender

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS — SPECIAL OFFER:

DOWN: 1 Parody 2 Biscuit 3 Royal 4 Well thought of 6 Honey 7 Peddle 8 Ballot 14 Israel 15 Pollard 16 Herbal 17 Appear 19 Baron 21 Mitre

1 Make fast; annoying situa-

3 Ahandoned lover of The-

4 Cut into with sharp tool (6)

As, say, darin for drain (8)

As, say, exhaust for drain (1)

8 Squash (fly) (4) 12 Quick route; time-saving

16 As, say nadir for drain (7)

17 Fermenting agent (6) 19 For us; sounds like ages (4)

21 Sudden turn; 60s dance (5)

BOOKSHOP

22 Out-of-focus sight (4)

płoy (5,3)

tion (4) Flexible (body) (5)

from the competition at an early stage and saving the best ties until later in the tournament, might hold sway and bring England into the top

Some information from "unnamed Fifa representatives" pointed to that outcome, but the consensus was that the leading eight are likely to be Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Argentina, Spain, Holland and Romania. There are anomalies in that selection that do not square with England's present Fifa rank-

England, though, have suf-fered from their failure to qualify for the last World Cup in the United States, If Fifa were to attempt to accommodate them and calculate the seedings purely on world rankings, Italy, Holland and Argentina would all miss out. And so, by yesterday after-noon, Hoddle seemed to be accepting that England would have to face up to the prospect of playing in the same group as one of the leading nations.

"It will be a bit of a disappointment if we are not seeded." Hoddle said, "but what will be, will be. Being seeded is not the advantage if used to be when you could play three games at the same venue. We believe the Fifa rankings reflect the real progress made in recent years by the England team. We have a new respect in the world.

"Whether we are seeded or not, other countries will want to avoid us in France for as

Family planning Symons demoted

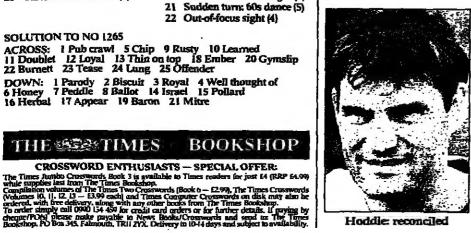
long as is possible. I believe there are six or seven teams who can win the World Cup and that includes us. Eventually, we will have to meet and beat the best so whenever we get them and wherever we get them, we will be ready for the

As England appeared to become resigned to their fate as second seeds last night, a destiny they are likely to share with nations such as Belgium. Bulgaria and Saudi Arabia. they even seemed willing to countenance the idea of what might once have been viewed as a worst-case scenario, of being drawn with the might of

Hoddle stopped short of actually urging the organisers to pair England with the World Cup holders but, providing his team could qualify for the last 16 behind Mario Zagallo's team, there would be a method to that madness because England would not have to face them again until either team reached the final.

That particular scenario would see England playing Brazil in the opening match of the tournament in the Stade de France on June 10. They would play their second and third group games in Bordeaux and Saint-Etienne and not a single match in Nantes, where they have been planning to base themselves for the duration of their involvement.

Hoddle was, though, given the hint of some better news yesterday when it emerged that Soi Campbell, the central defender who was given a second yellow card in England's final qualifying match, would probably not be suspended for the opening game of the tournament.





Charlotte Edwards, a fine batting prospect, spins away in the Surrey nets. Photograph: André Camara

England women ready for passage to India

ENGLAND'S women cricketers made their final preparations yesterday before leaving for Delhi today for their defence of the World Cup. A coaching session at the Surrey County Cricket Centre at George Abbott School, near Guildford, brought to an end an intensive programme of indoor

Guildford, brought to an end an intensive programme of indoor nets and tactical talks.

Geoff Arnold was there to offer coaching advice and show how to to bowl the "Adam Hollioake" slower ball (with fingers splayed either side of the seam), which can be such an effective weapon in the limited-overs game. The players were eager to take on board all the advice the former England fast bowler had to offer.

Barbara Damels, a member of

Barbara Daniels, a member of the successful 1993 World Cup squad, recognised that there was a limit to what could be achieved at this late stage, but was grateful for the excellent indoor facilities at the

"It's difficult to know what to expect as far as training facilities go when we get to India, so we're taking advantage of the facilities here," she said. "It's also a good opportunity to get people clued up and focused."

and focused."

The players are confident but were rather surprised to learn that I the final had been put hack a day to December 29, for the reserve day, December 30, happens to coincide with the date of their return flight to London.

Although England are the town.

Although England are the tour-nament favourites, conditions on and off the field will be vastly different to those they enjoyed on those memorable days four years

☐ Ian Healy's career in interna-tional one-day cricket could be over just seven months after leading Australia to a 4-3 victory in South Africa. Healy, who lost the Test vice-captaincy to Steve Waugh on the Ashes tour, now finds himself out of the 13-man squad named for the first four matches of the triangular series matches of the triangular series against New Zealand and South

Africa starting on Thursday. He and Mark Taylor, the Test captain, whose omission was no surprise, are the two most high tion policy of picking separate teams for the two forms of the

The fast bowlers, Michael Kasprowicz and Simon Cook, and the opening batsman, Matthew Elliott, are also omitted from the team that played against New Zealand in the drawn Hobart Test. which finished yesterday...

O'Sullivan challenges the established order

By Phil Yates

IN 1993, Ronnie O'Sullivan

successor to Stephen Hendry

force. Four years older and, it

would appear, wiser, he is once again challenging for the status of snooker's leading

When O'Sullivan defeated

Hendry 10-6 in the final of the

Liverpool Victoria United Kingdom championship at Preston Guild Hall on Sun-day, he re-emerged as the

player most likely to break the

Scot's hold on the world No I

position that he has occupied

for eight consecutive seasons.

satisfying than the last time I

beat Stephen here," said O'Sullivan, who became, at 17

years il months, the youngest

winner of a world-ranking

event when, against all expec-

tations, he overcame Hendry

in the 1993 United Kingdom

O'Sullivan has 11 tourna-

ment wins to his credit, includ-

ing successes at the British

Open and Benson and Hedges

Masters. In addition, during the Embassy World Champ-ionship this year, he compiled the fastest maximum 147

break on record — 5min 20sec. However, it was also at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield

that O'Sullivan's last remain-

ing chance of superseding Hendry as the most youthful world champion was extin-

guished. There existed an

inescapable feeling that he was in danger of never fulfill-

ing his potential.
"I realised changes had to

be made before the start of last

season," said O'Sullivan, who

won the Asian Classic, Ger-

championship final.

"This result is even more



O'Sullivare talented

League — again beating Hendry in the final — during a relatively successful 1996-97. campaign. He concentrated on physical, rather than mental, tuning. "I woke up one morning, took a look at myself in the mirror and saw a slob staring back," he said. He embarked on a strict fitness regime and shed two stones.

He may have been fit by the start of last season, but O'Sullivan still lacked the sustained concentration that is essential for consistency. Two recent developments have served to put that vital ingredient in place, however. One came during the summer. when O'Sullivan, a former client of Barry Hearn, signed a contract with Ian Doyle, the game's most powerful manager, to become a member of the

Team GdeZ Capital group. Derek Hill supplied the other. At 6ft 10in, Hill is an imposing figure. He is also amiable, has an inoffensive disposition and, most imporinfluence on the impulsive

O'Sullivan, with whom he has been friends since the latter's formative years. For Hill, 44, an afternoon fishing has far more attraction than a

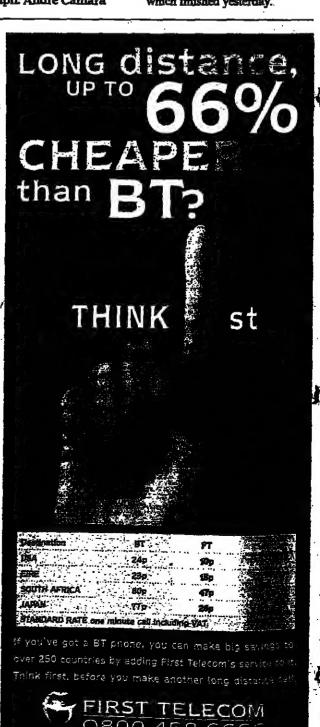
"He has good for me," O'Sullivan said, "He settles me down, keeps me ticking over and even makes practice enjoyable." It is no coincidence that their informal partnership was only renewed at the start of the United Kingdom championship after a yearlong hiatus. With the £75,000 first prize;

O'Sullivan, who celebrates his 22nd birthday on Friday, climbs to sixth on the all-time list of prize money-winners, with £1,313,531. He is also only the fourth player, after Steve Davis, Doug Mountjoy and Hendry, to prevail at the United Kingdom championship more than once. While O'Sullivan's confi-

dence is on a steeply upward curve, that of Hendry must be beat O'Sullivan in four meetings since February and has lost on his four most recent appearances in a final.

To talk of Hendry in decline may be premature, yet it is impossible not to wonder if the last United Kingdom championship match to be played at Preston Guild Hall — the event switches to Bournemouth next year -- will influence a shift in the game's balance of power, the next stage of which may take place in Bingen. Frankfurt, where the final stages of the German Open begin on Monday. Both O'Sullivan, the title holder. and Hendry will be there.

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